

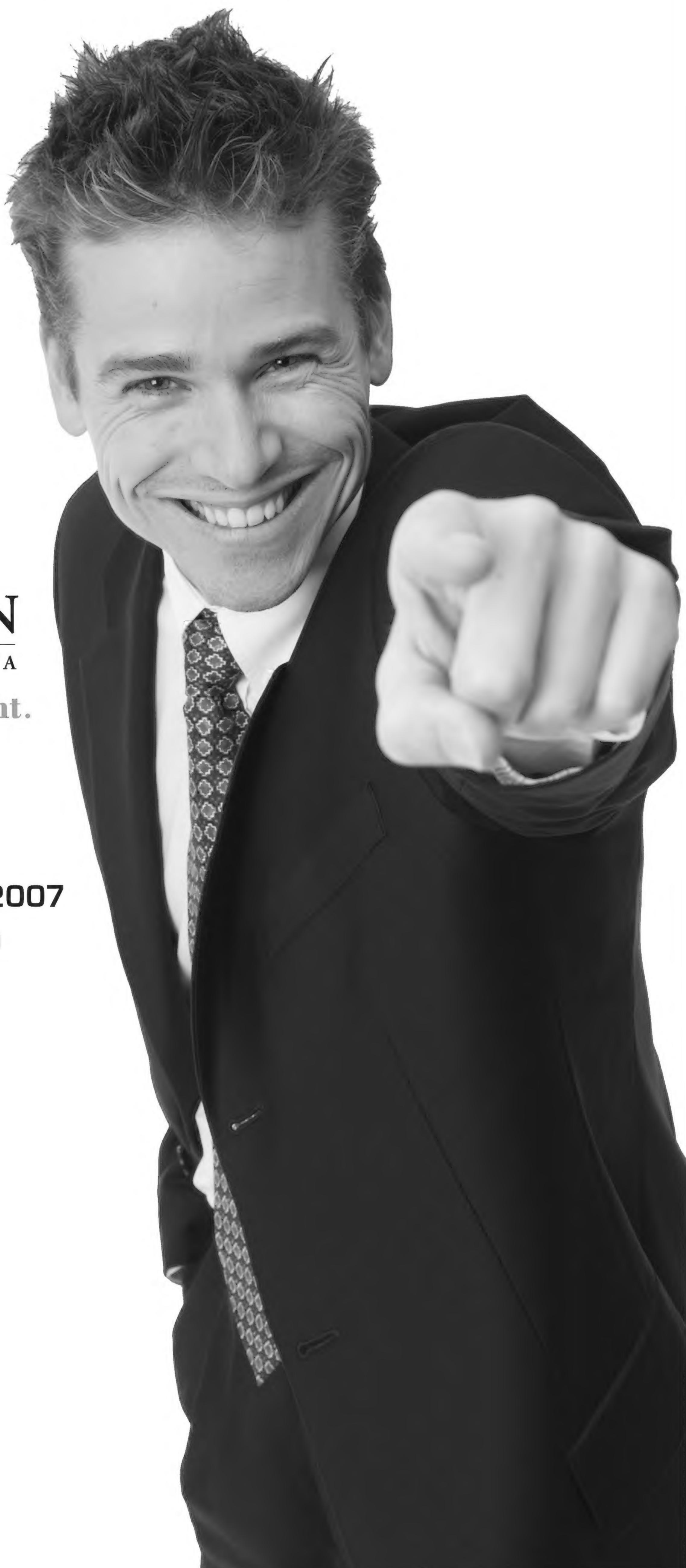
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Democracy gets drowned out by anti-Coke antics

WEEKS BEFORE THE STUDENTS' UNION ELECTIONS officially kick off, the SU Chief Returning Officer Rachel Woynorowski has dealt a potentially crippling blow to both the No side of the Coke plebiscite, and to students' ability to vote in an informed way.

The SU's contract with Coke is up for renewal, which has opened the old floodgates about corporate irresponsibility, about whether the SU should be accepting funds from multinational companies with questionable ethics, and even whether it's right to limit students' consumer choices in the first place.

But even before the majority of students were able to consider these weighty ethical issues, culture-jamming on the part of some more radical anti-Coke students has ensured that a balanced debate will be impossible. Flooding campus with their sometimes-alarmist anti-Coke paraphernalia—which showed Colombians floating dead, face-down in an oversized pint of Coke and included such witty phrases as "Dasani is Daphony" and "Killer Coke: The Drink That Represses!"—students have pushed home a sensational message at the expense of respectability.

The biggest problem with SAKCoke's campaign style is that it seems to confuse the actual issue at hand. Not content to argue the pros and cons of the SU's deal with Coke—or whether such a deal is in the interests of students both ethically and fiscally—the group has taken a much harsher and more ideological approach: they want Coke products removed from campus altogether, and see the upcoming plebiscite as a way to garner attention for their cause.

Not only is this political suicide, as the immature and emotional Killer Coke campaign does little to convince undecided students of the validity of their arguments—it's also a disservice to students, as it dissolves the real issue within a wider anti-Coke, anti-corporate mandate. Students seeking to become informed about the root issues surrounding the plebiscite will have little hope of sifting through the rhetoric on both sides, and little chance of casting an informed ballot as a result.

The issues surrounding this debate can hardly be cast in black and white. Anti-corporate activism has a place; it's important to raise awareness of unethical practices and draw the public's attention to the inner-workings of corporate structures. But culture-jamming has no place within the formal democratic process of SU elections, no matter how tenuous that democracy might be. By ignoring the rules set out to ensure fair and open debate, SAKCoke's actions are a disservice to students. Let's hope that, despite the CRO's fair ruling, someone with a bit of common sense and respect can take up the No side of the Coke plebiscite.

MATT FREHNER
Editor-in-Chief

For the sake of science

JAPANESE RESEARCHERS HAVE BEGUN TO USE STEM cells and fat to produce softer, more realistic breast implants. The cells and fat, taken from a stomach or thigh, are put together in a "soup" or "slurry" that is mixed with regular fat cells, and can increase a woman's bust by up to two cup sizes.

It's great to see that instead of using stem cells to cure cancer or Parkinson's or leukemia—which is just another form of cancer, I know, but I really wanted to get this point across—the Japanese are using them to enhance the sexual appeal of the ladies. Moreover, you have to wonder: if stem-cell research weren't so restricted in Canada, maybe U of A scientists would have come up with this sort of thing years ago, and everywhere you look, large, jiggly mammarys would be wagging in your face.

Sure it's frivolous to waste time and money on developing a more realistic breast enhancer, but at least the Japanese are attempting to improve humanity using the technology available, instead of allowing things like ethics to stand in the way of science.

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor

LETTERS

Don't be too negative about SO4

(Re: Not Saying not Juno material," 8 February). Full disclosure: Nik Kozub produced my album, I've smashed cans of energy drink/malt liquor with Lyle Bell, and Snarf recently lent me the last season of *Lost*. They are my friends, but they are also my colleagues.

With all that talk about bias, Amanda Ash's criticism of Shout Out Out Out Out (SO4)'s Juno nomination seems like more of a personal attack than a constructive analysis of the Edmonton scene's herd mentality. Why fault a band for people liking them? Why blame them for succeeding under the all-encompassing influence of Toronto? It makes me wonder if something went awry at the New Year's Eve show for the author. Maybe Gravy didn't say hi or something...

I'll agree that there are a lot of people in Edmonton who only listen to Shout Out Out Out because they happen to be "the cool thing" right now. But there are also people who only listen to TV on the Radio because Pitchfork says they should. People who only listen to Sufjan Stevens because one of his songs was on *The OC*. People who only listen to Bloc Party because Vice is standing behind them. You can't blame the band for their fans.

Maybe the Edmonton bands that are so much better than SO4 aren't recording albums, promoting themselves, sending albums to college radio, courting labels, getting in the fucking van or simply working as hard. Yes, SO4 tours across Canada, plays shows internationally (ie not just around town) and have recorded, practiced and grinded their way to where they are. They are successful because they put in the time necessary. Whatever bands you think are more deserving aren't putting themselves out there. Because to get noticed in this country, it takes serious drive.

But hey, certainly that couldn't be the case. Maybe those other bands just don't have the haircuts to make it in this town.

ROLLIE PEMBERTON
AKA "Cadence Weapon"

Personal attack attacked personally

I want to start off by congratulating Amanda Ash on making an absolute mockery out of both herself and what should have been a music critique. Her complete lack of musical knowledge and use of personal bias in her article on Shout Out Out Out's Juno nomination was an unnecessary stab at the local band.

Calling the guys bottom-feeders and accusing them of riding on the coat-tails of their Edmonton "hipster" popularity all the way to the Junos is a long-winded notion, with absolutely no relevancy to her position concerning their music. It would have been refreshing to see the wanna-be journalist's article consisting of valid arguments and musical review, but instead I wasted my time reading the juvenile ranting of a girl who appears to have an individual bone to pick with the band. And



come on, if Edmontonian hipsters really had that much control over the decisions made by [the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences] then why haven't they put that much effort into a band before, I mean it was just so easy wasn't it?

I am disgusted by the lack of respect Amanda showed not only SO4 but also her entire craft. Using the *Gateway* to publicly attack a person vs critique an artist is shallow and irresponsible of both the editor and the paper as a whole.

Furthermore I feel that she used a typically helpful tool, the art critique, and bastardized its strength. As an artist I spent four years in school perfecting and understanding the benefits of a critique, and I still use it everyday in what I do. It is so irritating to me that Amanda took this means of learning and growth and turned it into a way for her to validate her self-righteous article. An article that calls out a group of hard-working people for everything from their hair to their attitude.

Amanda, your mother once said everyone gets what they deserve, and I hope you understand it works both ways—because after this unreasonable display of poor judgment you have a lot coming to you. And they can't be all that bad, you seemed like you really enjoyed yourself at [SO4's] New Year's Eve show. And just as you should, I mean you didn't have to pay for your alcohol all night, yours was provided (or should I say stolen) from the band's rider all evening.

JENNIFER KOWTON
Via e-mail

Shut up up up up, Ash

Congratulations on making your complete lack of musical knowledge evident in your (completely unnecessary) article on SO4's Juno

nomination.

Untalented? Try coordinating two drummers. Unoriginal? Try finding electro music with more interesting lyrics. Saying that ridiculously cliched "bands" like City and Colour have more original music, as well as talking about their "emo hair" just further proves my point that you have absolutely no idea what you're talking about.

It's not SO4's fault they are nominated for a Juno, so perhaps you should back off a little bit. Whether you like their style of music or not, you cannot refute the fact that they are talented musicians who work harder than 99 per cent of any other band [sic] from Edmonton.

While you're on your little road to being a journalist, maybe you should learn to include a little less personal bias and a little more knowledge of your subject before you decide to bash a group of people who are actually doing something useful with their time.

ANDREA JUNIOR
Via e-mail

Turns out, transit costs do add up

As she explained in explicit detail, Miranda Sayer will be getting a bad deal from the U-Pass (re: "Transit costs don't add up," 8 February). The reason why is that subsidized programs such as the U-Pass, by their very nature, pick winners and losers. Not everyone can receive the subsidy since someone has to pay the subsidy. Aside from a small increase in transit ridership and the resulting slight economy of scale, the U-Pass will do nothing to make the transit system cheaper. The buses will still burn the same amount of gas and the drivers will still get paid.

PAUL KIRVAN
Engineering V

Who's really paying for the U-Pass?

I have not seen the most recent numbers for the costs [of] the proposed U-Pass, but I feel that students are not being made aware of who will actually be paying for students to receive a U-Pass if it goes through. Most students with monthly transit passes are paying [approximately] \$220 a semester. The most recent U-Pass proposal I read about sits at a cost of \$75 for every student, whether or not they have or will ever set foot on transit, with the university kicking in an additional \$15 and the city \$30.

Where does the majority of the funding come from? The students who don't use transit passes will make up the other \$100.

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LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Is this fair for people who pay higher rent so that they can live close to campus and avoid buying transit passes and riding buses or trains? Many of these students also have to pay to park their cars. Is it fair to those who have no public transit available to them and have to drive or prefer to drive in order to save an hour on their daily commute?

Any effort to decrease the costs is great for students living on tight budgets, but the solution should not be on the backs of other students who are also on tight budgets themselves.

TRAVIS LIDSTONE
Via e-mail

Free tuition comes at a cost

I find it quite hilarious that Avi Lewis claims that postsecondary education should be free (re: "Lewis argues tuition is unnecessary," 8 February). Then [in "Streeters"] students claim they would

"go boozing," "go shopping," "travel" and "have more fun" if this happened. Students as a group are supposed to be tomorrow's best and brightest and yet they can't seem to understand that there is only one pot of money out there.

If postsecondary education is made free all that that amounts to is a transfer from one group of people (taxpayers) to you, or more likely Molson. Being on the receiving

end of the transfer, this sounds like a great idea. The problems begin to arise when you same people start complaining about your high tax rates after you graduate. In case you haven't figured it out, there is a link between the two policies.

A smarter way to think about this is to ask yourself "on average, how much of the benefit of education accrues to the individual and how much accrues to society?" Well, the average university graduate gets benefits from his or her education in several ways, and society as a whole also benefits. Government should only really be paying for the portion of the cost that relates to the portion of the benefit society receives. This way society pays for the portion of the benefit it accrues and the individual pays for the portion he or she accrues. Education would then be a fair investment in the future of our great country, not a transfer payment to the relatively few people who attend university.

Free postsecondary education would imply that all the benefit of education accrues to society and none to the individual, which is clearly false. Are we paying for our portion of the benefit with current university tuition? There isn't room for a rigorous look at the math, but if you think about how much it costs to run a good university and how much you're paying, the answer is probably no.

CHRIS QUILLEY
Economics and Finance I

Gateway comic sets a double-standard

I was recently extremely disappointed in the *Gateway*'s disregard for others' religious beliefs. In the 6 February paper, the comic "Queer" professed outright hatred towards the Christian religion. The two things that struck me when I read it was, one: how could any even half-respectable paper print such a discriminatory cartoon? And two: why did that comic need to be so discriminatory in the first place?

At the bottom of the [Letters] section there is a note saying that the *Gateway* could refuse to print anything that "it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature." It seems though, that the latest comic by Marie-Annick Jean is blatantly hate-filled and portrays an ignorant view of the Christian religion. In fact some students I spoke to, who were not religious at all, were offended by it.

Whenever any other religion is discriminated against, for example Judaism or Islam, there is a very strong voice of opposition; in fact I would go so far as to say that the *Gateway* would not have printed an article or comic with that kind of content in it. However, when a Christian gets offended we are supposed to shut up and let it happen. Christians are supposed to love, right?

That brings me to my second point. While love is certainly fundamental to our belief, it does not mean we cannot stand

up for what we believe in. Miss Jean's portrayal of Christianity goes against everything that is Christian. We do not hate homosexuals, [and] any Christian who says they do, cannot call themselves a Christian. For those denominations that are in opposition, they are because of the biblical understanding that it is not an appropriate way of life. This does not mean we hate homosexuals: "Love thy neighbor" is God's command, whether we agree with their views or not. We just don't accept their lifestyle, and we believe it is against God's will.

So the next time the *Gateway* has a choice between printing an anti-Christian article or upholding its own set standards, I vote for the latter.

TRAVIS SCHOEPP
Engineering I

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, sent via carrier-owl or e-mailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The *Gateway* reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous or otherwise hateful in nature. The *Gateway* also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.

THE BURLAP SACK

When attending an event titled "BeerFest," every female should expect that a good 90 per cent of the drunken, slobbering population is going to be male. Fine. However, what every female should not expect from an social outing like this—no matter how intoxicated the males are—is to have to dodge unruly pickup lines every two seconds.

It was sickening. Preppy, sleazy guys lingered along the walls, staring at the few girls there with reddened eyes and stupid, sex-thirsty grins. They'd walk up to you, tell you, "You're too pretty to be drinking that," then proceed to buy you a "drink"—also known as a Dixie cup of beer—that costs between 50 cents and \$1, depending on which vendor you were cornered at. Classy.

I've never been more disgusted at the opposite sex in my life. Beer is no reason to let your wang do as it pleases. Keep it in your pants, boys—and next time, approach me when you're not shit-faced and can actually scrape together a better pickup line. So into the sack you go—though before I slap you upside the head, I will gladly accept your two drink tickets.

AMANDA ASH

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Just say No to SAKCoke

While the CRO's ruling is harsh, it's necessary in order to maintain some sense of order leading up to this year's contentious plebiscite question



ROSS
PRUSAKOWSKI

With only a handful of days remaining until reading week and the escape it offers from the frigid wasteland that is the University of Alberta, thoughts have already turned towards Monday, 26 February and the kickoff to this year's Students' Union elections.

However, while this is the legal start of campaigning—the point when posters can go up and pamphlets can be handed out—it seems that the Students Against Killer Coke (SAKCoke) can't seem to follow crucial election rules. It's this flaw that's justifiably cost them enormously.

On Friday, more than two and a half weeks before elections are actually supposed to begin, Chief Returning Officer Rachel Woynorowski fined the No campaign for the plebiscite question that would extend the current exclusive beverage deal between the SU, University and Coca-Cola. At \$900, the fine represents 90 per cent of the No side's campaign budget. It's a massive, but entirely just, penalty for SAKCoke's violation of pre-campaigning rules that are in place to ensure that all sides and candidates have equal opportunity to express their respective positions.

For plebiscite questions like that of the Coca-Cola contract extension,

both the Yes and No sides are prohibited from putting up posters and stickers, speaking in classrooms or handing out campaign-related paraphernalia from the time the question is approved by Students' Council until the election begins. However, once the question was approved on 6 February, SAKCoke began plastering Coke machines with stickers and bulletin boards with pamphlets—about as flagrant a violation of SU election rules as there could possibly be, and something that justified the CRO's decision and subsequent fine.

This could have been a great example of the opportunities and avenues available on campus for freedom of speech and expression.

In her ruling, Woynorowski noted that a leader of SAKCoke and other members of the group indicated they would be running or helping to run the No side during the election. While it's noble that they feel strongly enough about the proposal to actively participate in the election, this only serves to underscore why the fine is the right decision.

As an organization funded by APIRG, SAKCoke has used student funds to print and distribute stickers and posters outside the period of pre-campaigning period.

This could have been a great example

of the opportunities and avenues available on campus for freedom of speech and expression. Instead, The actions of APIRG—a group that had an eye to participating in the election and that had, according to the written decision, been informed of the rules—are reprehensible and an egregious misuse of hard-earned student revenue. This also opens the door to questioning the principles and aims of APIRG itself.

While it's likely that SAKCoke or another party will appeal the ruling, it should be upheld to ensure that the fairness and transparency that the SU and students demand in our elections is preserved. The prohibitions on pre-campaigning are extremely clear and are backed up under threat of harsh punishment in order to ensure that students have fair and equal access to information—and so that a side can't simply win by outspending. If SAKCoke or other sides are allowed to flaunt these rules because of their fanatical opposition to proposals, it would degrade the quality and level of debate on the issues and ultimately hurt the student electorate.

As students themselves, the No side will be looking forward to a week of free time as well—time they'll need to do some serious thinking. How they decide to run the rest of their crippled \$100 campaign remains to be seen, but the No side, along with all other students, should take the CRO's decision as a signal that the Students' Union elections are going to be run as fairly as possible. Consider it a warm and friendly message to students escaping for Reading Week.

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Clean up your Act, Ottawa

The Clean Air Act could use some tweaking—and Elizabeth May could help

PATRICK ROSS



In recent months, various polls have determined that the environment is the top political issue among Canadians today. Particularly important are the toxic emissions related to climate change and air quality. Toxic emissions have also become an issue in an unlikely place: within the House of Commons itself.

Ottawa's leading producer of these noxious fumes—the Liberal, New Democratic and Conservative parties, as well as the Bloc Québécois—have been working overtime since 19 October, 2006, when the controversial Clean Air Act was introduced in Parliament.

Since its introduction, the Clean Air Act has met stern resistance from the opposition parties. In particular, they've criticized the intensity targets contained in the bill, which could allow greenhouse gases to increase as the consumption of fossil fuels increases. On 1 November, Prime Minister Stephen Harper agreed to submit the Clean Air Act to a committee for revision.

Since then, the co-operation between the various parties has been uninspiring, however. Newly appointed Environment Minister John Baird's

testimony before the Clean Air Act committee degenerated into vicious partisan bickering over the previously governing Liberal party's dismal performance on the greenhouse gas issue, as compared to the action (or, to date, lack thereof) taken by the current Conservative government.

Given the critical importance of the environmental portfolio—especially in relation to climate change—the current, largely partisan, deadlock on the issue is entirely unacceptable.

New blood is desperately needed. Unfortunately, the person who may be best suited to provide the leadership that is so sorely lacking is sitting firmly on the sidelines.

With the government and opposition parties content to snipe at each other in what has become a blatant example of pre-election campaigning, a real leadership deficit has emerged, and it clearly needs to be filled.

New blood is desperately needed. Unfortunately, the person who may be best suited to provide the leadership that is so sorely lacking is sitting firmly on the sidelines.

Green Party leader Elizabeth May has been akin to a ghost recently,

haunting Parliament Hill and eager to insert herself into the environmental debate in any way possible. To date, her contributions on the matter have mostly consisted of a number of television and radio interviews—she could definitely be making a much more significant contribution.

What seems to be needed, more than anything, is an effective arbitrator: someone to bring the two parties (in this case, the government and opposition) together to discuss the issue, to determine how that issue will be discussed, and to moderate that discussion. The Green Party's Elizabeth May could be just the right person for the job.

With no Green Party MPs currently in the House of Commons, May wouldn't be placing her party at risk by playing the role of arbitrator in this matter. The Green Party has nothing to lose, and everything to gain.

While the Green Party clearly has lessons to learn before it will be prepared to take on any great significance in Canadian politics, the current importance of the environment and the Clean Air Act in particular, could use the kind of constructive, non-partisan leadership that Elizabeth May could offer.

All of this adds up to a golden opportunity for virtually everyone involved—especially Elizabeth May. Perhaps our political leaders could give May her first big break in this regard by giving her an opportunity to regulate the "toxic emissions" being disregarded over the Clean Air Act.

A polarized nation isn't very attractive

JARED MILNE

During the Liberal leadership race last year, candidate Michael Ignatieff proposed recognizing Québec as a "nation within Canada." Bob Rae, Stéphane Dion and Gerard Kennedy, Ignatieff's main rivals, criticized the proposal, saying that it risked badly dividing a Liberal party struggling to reassert itself. Stephen Harper since openly accepted the motion, which some observers feared might set off another round of divisive constitutional negotiations that could easily lead to misunderstandings and animosity like that of the Meech Lake and Charlottetown accords.

The recent debate over recognizing Québec as a nation wasn't one between federalists and separatists, but between different groups of federalists who want to see Québec remain in Canada but who can't agree on how it should fit into the country. This debate on the Québec issue shows just how alarmingly polarized Canadian politics risks becoming.

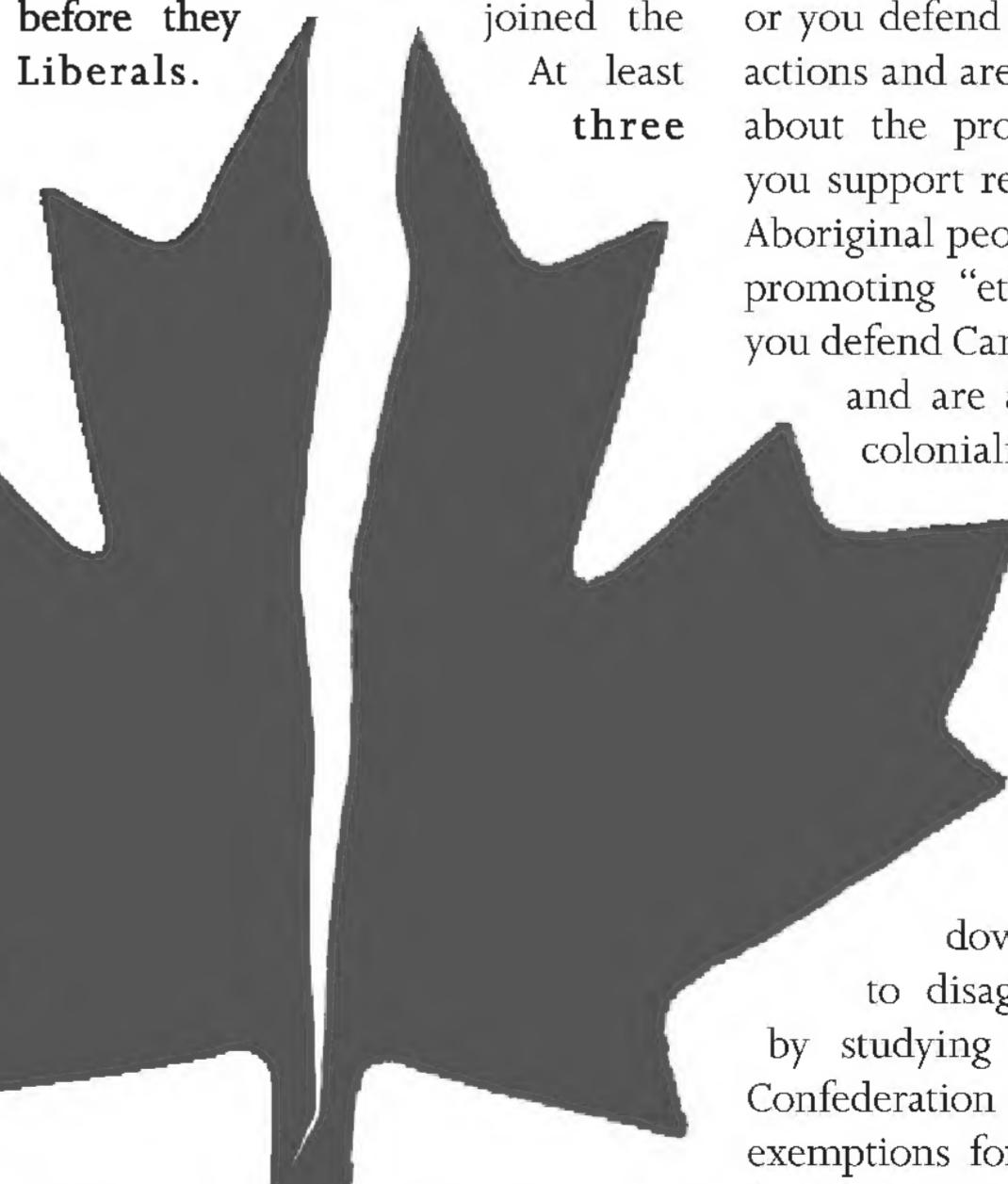
In some circles, the only way to deal with Québec is the way Trudeau did—treat it like any other province, with

no special considerations whatsoever. Any attempts to accommodate Québec nationalism, such as the Meech Lake Accord, only fuel separatism.

Unfortunately, this approach just hasn't worked, in that the Quebecois simply haven't responded to it. In fact, in many ways it's only made the problem worse. Ignatieff took a tremendous political risk in saying otherwise.

The sad thing is, both Rae and Dion supported Meech Lake and criticized Trudeau's efforts to oppose it before they joined the Liberals.

At least three



of the candidates supported recognition of Québec in some form or another, but do they feel like they can say it openly without becoming political pariahs?

Tommy Douglas, the "greatest Canadian" (as dubbed by CBC viewers), once claimed that "anyone who

supports negotiation with Québec is accused by Trudeau of being a separatist." Unfortunately, now it seems you have to be either a Trudeauist or a separatist—there's no room for compromise, conciliation or finding the middle ground.

This problem can surface in other areas as well. Either you support a province like Alberta or Newfoundland in its oil disputes with Ottawa and are accused of being parochial and not caring about the rest of the country, or you defend the intent of Ottawa's actions and are accused of not caring about the provinces' needs. Either you support recognition of Canada's Aboriginal people and are accused of promoting "ethnic nationalism," or you defend Canada to the Aboriginals and are accused of promoting colonialism and assimilation, in extreme cases.

What's happened to attempts to understand where the other side is coming from in a debate? Why must we simply shout down people who dare to disagree with us? Maybe, by studying how the Fathers of Confederation made exceptions and exemptions for Québec, seeing why the aboriginal treaties exist in the first place, seeing things from the province's point of view or seeing why Ottawa has to take the needs of all Canadians into account, we could maybe try to avoid this polarizing, and see that Canada was built on understanding and compromise, not simply shouting the other side down. One can only hope.

How *not* to make love like a porn star: 30 seconds at a time



PAUL
KNOECHEL

27 seconds. The little lady who got that treatment was in mute disbelief afterwards, just mumbling a couple "oh Gods" every so often. Another satisfied customer.

Now don't lose heart, for while you may never get to my level, with practice, you can get close.

Tantra. The Kama Sutra. Cosmo's sex advice column—they all share a common thread. That is, they're all utter bullshit. Here we've got Tantra talking about how we can have sex for hours, the Kama Sutra filling our society with lies about how good sex is sex that lasts long enough for more than one sexual position and a woman's magazine spouting off about how foreplay is important to the sexual experience. Well I've had enough of this absurd propaganda, and am here to set the record straight about how you *ought* to be having sex: as quickly as possible!

In the interest of societal enlightenment, I'm going to employ a technique my hippy ex-girlfriend was always yammering on about called "sharing" (I was as stumped as you probably are—go ahead and look it up on Wikipedia). But I for one don't buy into the traditional and misguided notions about what makes sex good. I'm not wasting time with needless things like foreplay or any fancy "positions" or "holding back." I'm into rocking beds and blowing minds—by blowing my wad as fast as possible. Current record: flaccid to finished in

I'm not wasting time with needless things like foreplay or any fancy "positions" or "holding back." I'm into rocking beds and blowing minds—by blowing my wad as fast as possible. Current record: flaccid to finished in 27 seconds.

I can already hear the legions of the brainwashed out there going into their usual diatribe. "But Paul, why not make a good thing last? Why can't I have a little foreplay? I know what I like in bed." Blah, blah, blah. It's a crying shame really, because all those thoughts are just covering up the true emotions that are trying to get out. Deep down, I know the ladies reading this are enticed, and the wisdom of my words is also clicking with the guys.

Think about it: if you suck at sex, it's pretty much best if you get done as fast as possible so that whoever you're with doesn't really catch on to how inept you are. And in time, the memory may be distorted to the point that in their mind, you knocked their socks off. If you're proficiently skilled in the bedroom, why would you dilute your talents by making things last longer than they need to?

Look at it this way: if you have a cup of sugar to work with in a recipe, you can either make an entire batch of so-so cookies, or you can make a single, amazing *super-cookie*. The concentrated awesomeness will blow your lover off of his or her feet and have them begging for another round.

Which brings me to another advantage of my technique: quantity. In your usual one-night stand you might get four rounds out of it if you're not too drunk. Employ the minute-man technique, and you're looking at an easy dozen.

And while it seems like you may never be able to achieve the level of sexual mastery I've attained, don't lose hope. It's as simple as training every day, several times in fact. It's a long road, but looking back at all the shocked and amazed faces littering the battlefield of my sexual conquests, it's one worth travelling. There'll be labels thrown at you, and times when you're going to want to throw in that crusty old towel. But if you really reach, strain and train through it all, you'll come out on top. Everytime.



LIZ DURD

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Everyone
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A Seminar on how one of the most
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Starts Friday February 16, 7:30pm @ Telus Centre
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Students' Union Employment Opportunities



TERMS OF OFFICE: 1 MAY 2007 TO 30 APRIL 2008 (IN MOST CASES)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, 12 MARCH, 2007, 5:00 PM NO EXCEPTIONS

SUBMIT APPLICATION, COVER LETTER AND RESUME TO 2-900 SUB

APPLICATION FORMS: AVAILABLE AT SU RECEPTION DESK 2-900 SUB, AND SUB, HUB, CAB, ETLC INFO BOOTHS AND FACULTY ASSOCIATION OFFICES OR ONLINE AT WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA.

important instructions

- Please submit only single sided documents. We thank everyone who applies, however ONLY shortlisted applicants will be notified.
- Please be available for the noted interview time.
- Applicants must be undergraduate students and have paid full Students' Union fees.
- Positions subject to Council ratification and signing of employment contract.

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC

Reports to the VP Academic. Assists and reports on various academic issues – coordinating projects related to academic affairs. Represent the VP Academic and serve as the resource person for the ARG, GFCSC and student reps on University committees. This position requires a minimum of 20 hours per week in office time.

Remuneration: \$1182/month

For further information contact the VP Academic at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Monday, March 26, starting at 5:00 pm.

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL

Reports to the VP External. Assists with organization of on and off-campus events designed to introduce members of the community and prospective students to the Students' Union and the U of A. Minimum of 20 hours per week in office time required.

Remuneration: \$1182/month

For further information contact the VP External 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Monday, March 26, starting at 5:00 pm.

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT STUDENT LIFE

Reports to the VP Student Life. Assists with the programming, events and the volunteer management components of the Student Life portfolio as well as other duties. Minimum of 20 hours per week in office time required.

Remuneration: \$\$1182/month

For further information contact the VP Student Life at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, March 28, starting at 5:00 pm.

CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

Reports to Students' Council and oversees all electoral logistics. Must be familiar with election process and bylaws. Excellent project management skills are required to succeed in this position.

Remuneration: \$4032.00 flat fee

For further information contact Catherine van de Braak, ea@su.ualberta.ca

Interviews scheduled for Thursday, March 29, starting at 5:00 pm.

ECOS (ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION OFFICE OF STUDENTS) DIRECTOR*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. The Director of ECOS is responsible for researching, developing and implementing environmental programs for the Students' Union and students on Campus.

Remuneration: \$1400/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, March 27, starting at 7:00 pm.

OMBUDSERVICE DIRECTOR (2)*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. The OmbudService is a joint U of A and SU service. The service is an advocate for fairness and due process and is responsible for information and referral on University policy, and protocols related to the academic and personal well being of all students.

Remuneration: \$1420/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, March 27, starting at 4:30 pm.

SAFEWALK DIRECTOR*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. Responsible for the overall operation of the Safewalk program, including working with other units on campus to improve and promote safety on campus. Excellent opportunity to develop volunteer management and administrative skills.

Remuneration: \$1450/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Friday, March 23, starting at 7:00 pm.

STUDENT DISTRESS CENTRE DIRECTOR*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. In conjunction with the Distress Line, offers peer counseling, crisis intervention and information/referral services to the campus community. Must have at least one year of comparable peer-counseling experience.

Remuneration: \$1450/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Friday, March 23, starting at 4:30 pm.

STUDENT GROUP SERVICES DIRECTOR*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. Responsible for organizing and providing support to a diverse array of over 300 student groups on campus, including group registration, risk management, training and granting.

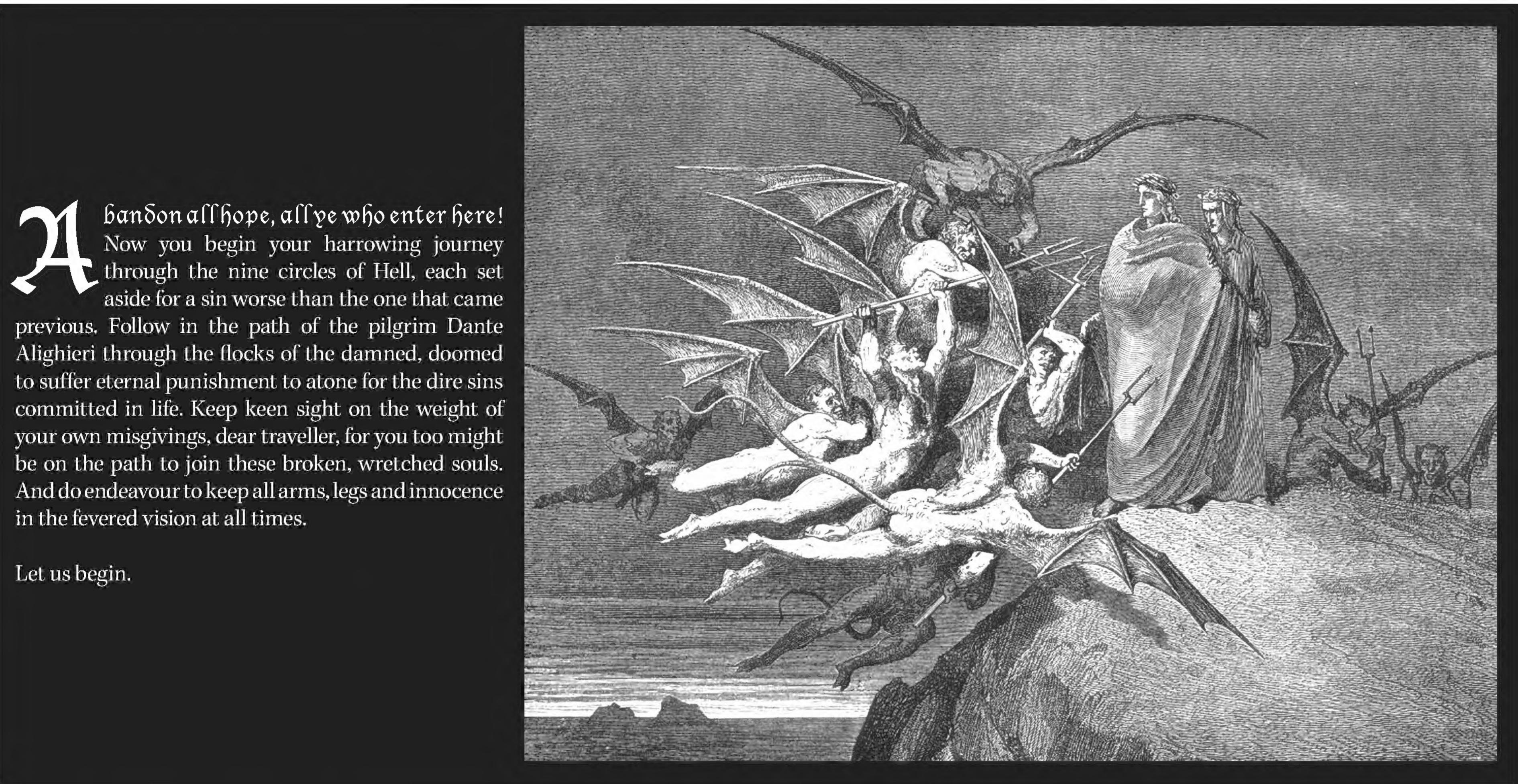
Remuneration: \$1400/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Monday, March 26, starting at 4:30 pm.

***ALL DIRECTOR'S POSITIONS ARE 30 HOURS PER WEEK**

The Purity Test



Abandon all hope, all ye who enter here! Now you begin your harrowing journey through the nine circles of Hell, each set aside for a sin worse than the one that came previous. Follow in the path of the pilgrim Dante Alighieri through the flocks of the damned, doomed to suffer eternal punishment to atone for the dire sins committed in life. Keep keen sight on the weight of your own misgivings, dear traveller, for you too might be on the path to join these broken, wretched souls. And do endeavour to keep all arms, legs and innocence in the fevered vision at all times.

Let us begin.

First Circle - Limbo

Give attention to those that dwell in the gentlest Circle of Hell: Limbo. Here suffer the unbelievers, those who led virtuous lives but who did not embrace in the bosom of their creator. Here, the only punishment is an eternity without divinity. Gaze on the rolling plains of green and the spartan castle of rough stone. This is where those who have not shown belief will live out their peaceful, but empty, eternities. Soon, we will pass to the Second Circle to see how low you can go.

Are you baptized? (-2pts)
Did you cry during your baptism? (1pt)
Did you burst into flames? (10pts)
Did you pee in your baptism water? (1pt)
In somebody else's baptism water? (3pts)
Are you a bastard? (1pt)
Do you eat pork? (1pt)
If no, is it because you're vegetarian/vegan? (-2pts)
Are you observant of holy days? (-3pts)
Just to get a day off work? (5pts)
Are you Catholic, Jewish and Muslim just to get a three-day weekend? (5pts)
Have you ever used God's name in vain? (1pt for every time used in a single sentence)
Have you ever been told by God that you're vain? (15 pts, you sexy bitch)
Have you ever sworn during a religious celebration? (1pt)
Have you ever stolen from the collection? (1pt)
Eaten extra bread? (1pt)
Drank extra wine? (1pt)
Just so you wouldn't have to suffer through the service? (1pt)
Have you ever jaywalked? (1pt)
Hit a jaywalker with your car? (5pts)
After they were back on the sidewalk? (10pts)

Second Circle - Lust

The plane of lust is your next destination. It is here that those who could not resist the pull of their more carnal urges will suffer, their souls pushed around by a violent tempest until the end of time. Their heated desires will forever be cooled by the harsh, cold winds of this circle's

vicious storm. Of course, these winds cause massive shrinkage of engorged members.

Have you ever held hands with someone? (1pt)
Have you ever kissed someone of the opposite sex? (1pt)
Someone of the same sex? (1pt)
Something of another species (in a sexual manner)? (5pt)
Have you declared your relationship on Facebook? (0pts, with Facebook, no one's a winner)
Just to rub it in to an ex? (0pts, see above)
Have you ever broken up with someone in a note? (1pt)
Over the phone/in a text message? (2 pts)
On MSN/any form of instant messaging? (5pts)
On your blog? (7pts)
On Facebook (0pts, loser)
Just gotten the priest to whisper it to them at the altar? (15pts)

Do you masturbate? (2pts)
What's your 24-hour record? (1pt per time)
Do you masturbate to pornography? (1pt)
Internet pornography? (2pts)
YouTube? (3pts)
Lonely_girl15? (4pts)
NASCAR, because revving engines make you hot? (10pts)
Because Dick Trickle makes your dick trickle? (20pts, 50pts if you're female)
Have you ever been caught masturbating? (2pts)
By people on a balcony across the street? (5pts)
By your parents? (3pts)
Did you keep on going? (5pts)
Did you ask them to join in? (10pts)
Have you ever been part of a circle jerk? (5pts)
Have you ever listened to your roommates have sex? (1pt)
Did you pound on the wall? (-2pt)
Did you ask to join in? (5pts)
Did they say no? (-2pt)
Ever shaved your pubes? (2pts)
Waxed them? (3pts)
Tore them out? (5pts)
Braided them, to see what it looked like? (7pts)
Burned them off? (10pts)
With fire and brimstone? (20pts)

Ever given or received oral sex? (2pts)
Ever given or received a handjob? (2pts)
In a moving motor vehicle? (5pts)
While your mom was driving? (10pts, you saucy lad/laddess)
Have you ever had sex? (1pt for each partner)
Did you do it "wrong?" (2pts)
Did you say sorry afterwards? (-1pt)
How old were you when you lost your virginity? (2pts for each year below 18, -1pt for each year above)
Have you ever had unprotected sex? (2pts)
Lied about using protection? (5pts)
Ever take someone's virginity? (5pts per virgin)
Just to cure AIDS? (25pts, idiot)
Just to give them AIDS? (50pts, asshole)
Have you ever had anal sex? (3pts)
Was it because somebody has bad aim, or was drunk? (-1pt)
Did you get them drunk so you could attempt it? (5pts)
Was it because you changed lanes without signalling? (5pts)

How many times have you had sex in a 24-hour period? (1pt for every session over one)
How many different partners in a 24-hour period? (3pts for two, 5pts for each after two)
How large a group have you had sex in? (5pts a piece after one partner)
Have you ever broken the divide-by-two-plus-seven rule? (5pts)
Ever have sex until you were sore? (2pts)
Until you couldn't walk? (5pts)
Did you keep going? (2pts)
Have you ever had sex for money? (10pts)
In a church? (15pts)
With a priest? (20pts)
When you were twelve? (30pts, and an official apology in 15 years)
Ever had sex in your parents' bed? (10pts)
Sibling's bed? (10pts)
While they were sleeping? (20pts)
Because it turned you on? (30pts)
Have you ever had sex in a washroom? (3pts)
While people were in the next room? (5pts)
Did they tell you turning on the tap during scrawny-scrawny doesn't help? (5pts)



Are you part of the Mile-High Club? (10pts)
 Of the Meter-High Club (washroom on a Greyhound)? (10pts)
 Of the Six-Feet-Under Club? (50pts)
 Have you ever had sex in the stacks of Rutherford South? (5pts)
 Rutherford North? (10pts)
 The Powerplant? (5pts)
 Was it so you could be alone? (-5pts)
 Did you do it "buffet-style?" (10pts)
 Are you the reason that the food tastes so bad? (15pts)
 Have you had sex in NINT? (30pts)
 Just to make yourself/your partner feel like a big man? (-10pts)

Have you ever had a one-night stand? (5pts; add 10pts if you've had more than five)
 Did he or she light candles for you? (3pts)
 Did you wake up the next morning and bolt out the door? (2pts)
 Make him/her pay for your cab home—because \$20 is a lot of money? (5pts)
 Say, "I'll see you at dinner, Grandad?" (15pts)

Have you ever used lube? (1pt)
 Vaseline? (2pts)
 Peanut butter? (3pts)
 Was it chunky? (5pts)
 Did you do it even though you're you allergic? (50pts, for bravery)
 Ever involve shitting, pissing, or puking into your sexual practices? (4pts for each and additional 2pts per combo)
 By accident? (-10pts)
 Have you ever used a sex toy? (2pts)
 A carrot? (1pt)
 A cucumber? (2pts)
 A mango? (4pts)
 A pineapple (ouch)? (8pts)
 Ever filmed yourself having sex? (5pts)
 Did you post it on YouTube? (20pts)
 Ever worn costumes? (3pts)
 Were they the Bear and Pandas mascot uniforms? (20pts)
 Did GUBA ruin the mood? (-10pts)
 When someone says Second Coming, do you say you need 20 more minutes? (10pts)

Third Circle - Gluttony

Behold: those with powerful appetites for food and spirits—as well as for more illicit substances—will find their doomed souls exposed under the cold rain and pounding hail of the Third Circle. As a punishment for their hunger, they will be forced to feast on their own waste, guarded by the three-headed abomination Cerberus, who keeps a close eye to ensure that these gourmands continue their penance. As well, they only play Shout Out Out Out Out, all the time.

Have you ever been in an eating contest? (1pt)
 Did you win? (3pts)
 Have you ever eaten anything so big it was free if you finished it? (3pts)
 Did you finish it? (5pts)
 Did you go swimming shortly thereafter, you bad-ass sonofabitch? (2pts)
 Have you ever had wildcat donair? (3pts)
 Ever eaten so much you threw up? (5pts)

Did you eat the throw up? (10pts)
 Have you ever thrown up just so you can eat more? (10pts)
 Do you observe the five-second rule? (2pts)
 The ten-second rule? (3pts)
 The three-week rule? (10pts)

Have you ever been drunk? (2pts)
 So drunk you blacked out? (5pts)
 So drunk you puked? (5pts)
 Puked blood? (10pts)
 Puked so violently that you popped a blood vessel? (10pts)
 Puked a lung? (20pts)
 Have you ever been to the hospital with alcohol poisoning? (10pts)

A morgue? (15pts)
 How old were you when you were first drunk? (1pt for every year below 18, -2pts for every year above)

Do you drink alone? (3pts)
 Do you prefer to be by yourself? (1pt)
 Ever gone to class drunk? (1pt)

Drank during class? (3pts)

Gone to an exam drunk? (3pts)

Been drunk on the job? (5pts, unless you're a *Gateway* editor past or present. Additional 5pts if you're a neurosurgeon.)

Been forced to go to work drunk by your employer? (5pts)

What's the most number of days in a row that you've drank? (3–5, 2pts; 5–10, 4pts; 10–20; 6pts; 20–50, 8pts; 50+, 10pts)

Do you have a liquor budget? (3pts)
 Does it exceed your food budget? (5pts)

Rent? (10pts)
 Tuition? (20pts)

The GDP of the Czech Republic? (30pts)

Ever done a body shot? (2pts)
 Off your own body? (5pts and our collective awe)

Ever done a strong-man shot? (3pts)

Do the bartenders know your name? (5pts)

Because it's tattooed on your ass? (10pts)

Because it's on your hat? (-10pts, loser)

Do they know your favourite drink? (5pts)

Do you have your own breathalizer? (10pts)

Is it connected to your ignition? (20pts)

Have you been high? (2pts for every year below 18, -3pts if you've never been)

Done drugs to improve your athletic performance? (5pts)

Your sexual performance? (-2pts)

To reduce the size of your testicles? (-5pts)

Have you ever done:

Marijuana? (3pts)

Mushrooms? (5pts)

Crack? (10pt)

Heroin? (20pts)

Meth? (10pts)

Nutmeg? (-15pts, you moron)

Shoe polish? (20pts)

Really old yogurt? (-5pts)

Have you ever snorted coke? (10pts)

Because someone made you laugh while you were drinking it? (-5pts)



Off a dead hooker? (20pts)
Off a dead Colombian? (50pts)

Fourth Circle - Material Wealth

Two groups find themselves cast into the hell reserved for those with too great a care for material wealth: those who spend far more lavishly than is right, and the miserly who grip every coin tightly as if it is their salvation. These two accursed collections must forever push two tremendous weights towards one another without respite. When the two stones collide, they will repel one another to begin the punishment over again. The BO doesn't help any either.

Have you ever donated blood? (-3pts)
Just for the cookies? (5pts)
So you could get drunk easier? (10 pts)
Even though you're a Jehovah's Witness? (15pts, you rebel)
Have you ever stolen something? (2pts)
Was it money? (5pts)
From the Arts Students' Association? (20pts)
Have you ever stolen candy from a baby? (5pts)
Have you ever stolen a baby from a lady named Candy? (10pts)
Have you ever stolen a baby from Africa? (20pts)
Do you collect crystal figurines? (3pts)
Stamps? (-3pts)
Fingernail clippings? (10pts)
Sexual partners? (5pts)
Do you give to the poor? (-3pts)
Just to accuse them of stealing? (5pts)
Do you have a student loan? (1pt)
Did you use it to pay for a ski trip? (10pts)
To pay off your bookie? (20pts)
Did you write on the wall of debt? (-5pts)
Was it vandalism? (3pts, unless you're an engineer)

Have you ever searched for hidden Christmas/birthday presents? (1pt)
Have you ever thrown yourself a birthday party just to get more presents? (3pts)
Do you have more than ten pairs of shoes? (5pts)
Do you have a credit card? (1pt; 2pts for each after one)
Do you own a Louis Vuitton bag? (5pts)
Is it a knock-off? (-5pts)
Have you ever dated someone just because they were rich? (10pts)
Did they make you pay anyway? (-5pts, sucker)
Do you have moldy food in your fridge? (1pts)
Eat out more than five times a week (3pts)
Do you hunt endangered species? (10pts)
For meat? (3pts)
For fur/skin? (5pts)
For company? (15pts)
Have you ever hunted the most dangerous game? (25pts)

Fifth Circle - Sloth and Anger

Again, this hell is home to two different camps of the eternally damned. In the thick, foul-smelling water of the river Styx, the wrathful battle one another on the surface, attempting in vain

to break free of the bitter feud and get to the shore. Underneath, the slothful remain prone on the bottom of the polluted river, lungs and bellies swollen with water for those too apathetic to attempt a break to the surface. Still others are forced to inhale the sewage-riddled air east of the Humanities Centre.

Have you ever been too lazy to be angry? (1pt)
Too angry to be lazy? (1pt)
Have you ever bitched about someone on your blog? (1pt)
Have you ever fallen asleep during any sort of sexual activity? (1pt)
Have you ever gone on the bottom so you could sleep? (3pts)
Have you ever masturbated because you were too lazy to wake your partner up? (3pts)
Because they were awake but you were too lazy to roll over? (5pts)
Do you have bedsores? (1pt)
Do those bedsores have bedsores? (3pts, gross)
Have you ever stayed in bed even though you had class? (2pts)
Even though you had to go the bathroom? (5pts)
Do you have a piss jug? (5pts)
Have you ever had to take a break mid-shit? (1pt)

How long have you gone without changing your underwear? (1pt for every day over two)
Without doing laundry? (2pts for every week after two)
How many days have you gone without bathing? (2pts for every day over three)
Do you have a W on your transcript? (1pt, additional 1pt for each semester with more than one)
Have you ever failed a course because you were too lazy to withdraw? (1pt)
Ever slept during class? (1pt)
Were you in the front row? (3pts)
Were you the professor? (5pts)
Have you ever hate-fucked? (2pts)
Have you ever hate-fucked the hate away? (3pts)
Have you ever hate-fucked the AIDS away? (-3pts, it doesn't work like that)
Have you ever hate-masturbated the loneliness away? (1pt, and our pity)
Have you ever released the hounds? (1pt)
Let the dogs out? (-1pt)
Do you swear at inanimate objects? (1pt)
Destroy them with scissors and your teeth? (5pts)
Have you ever laughed at someone else's suffering? (2pts)
After causing it? (2pts)
To their face? (2pts)
To their mother's face? (3pts)
At the funeral? (20pts)

Sixth Circle - Heresy

Flaming tombs stretch along the inner walls of the hellish city of Dis, where they are guarded by the fearsome might of fallen angels. Every stone prison holds a heretic. Those that have spoken in opposition to the teaching of the divine must remain locked in these crude ovens, constantly baked by the intense flame.



THE GATEWAY

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: JOSH NAULT

The world-famous Purity Test is back. Flip to page 17 and bare your soul. Among other things.

Anti-Coke posters net \$900 fine

SCOTT LILWALL
Deputy News Editor

While the Yes and No campaigns of the upcoming Coke plebiscite question have yet to be officially formed, the Student Unions' Chief Returning Officer has already handed down a sizeable penalty against one of the sides.

CRO Rachel Woynorowski released a ruling Friday evening in response to a student complaint that materials put up by Students Against Killer Coke (SAK Coke) constituted pre-campaigning in the run up to the plebiscite question, slated for this year's SU elections ballot, from 7-8 March. The plebiscite question, finalized by Students' Council during last week's meeting, would have students vote on whether the SU should sign onto a continuation of the University's exclusivity contract with the Coca-Cola Company.

"I was aware of the materials up before, but we had a complaint come in from a student. So, according to our bylaws, the CRO has to issue a ruling within twelve working hours," Woynorowski said.

PLEASE SEE COKE • PAGE 6
ALSO READ FREHNER ON PAGE 11
AND PRUSAKOWSKI ON PAGE 13

U of A medicine evades probation

The Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry wins fight to retain its accreditation

RAMIN OSTAD
News Staff

The University of Alberta's medical school is no longer facing the threat of probation after making numerous changes and improvements to the program, an international accreditation committee decided last Thursday.

These changes include an increased emphasis on active learning in the pre-clinical curriculum, a review and alteration of admissions procedures, and addressing the issue of student mistreatment by health-care professionals. However, according to Dr Tom Marrie, Dean of Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, the red-flag warning was only one factor among many that lead to the revisions.

"We decided to use this threat of probation to totally rethink what we're doing and basically make changes to make us better," Marrie explained. "One of these changes wasn't even considered by the accreditation people. They believed our admissions policies were fine. But we decided to look at our admission procedures anyhow."

On 5 October, 2006, the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), which accredits and monitors the medical programs in Canadian and American universities, notified

U of A President Indira Samarasekera of its intent to place the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry on probation. The U of A appealed the probation.

"We decided to use this threat of probation to totally rethink what we're doing and basically make changes to make us better."

**DR TOM MARRIE,
MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY DEAN**

The U of A is only the second Canadian postsecondary institution to be threatened with probation. In February 2003, the University of Saskatchewan was put under 24-month probation by the LCME, due to problems with its curriculum and shortage of teachers.

In the U of A's case, concerns regarding the lecture-based learning style of the first- and second-year curriculum were cited reasons for the probationary status. Marrie have now eliminated those concerns by altering the

curriculum to allow for more active learning, more opportunities for self-directed learning and greater use of computer technology.

Also among the LCME's complaints are issues regarding lack of supervision during medical residencies, as well as claims of students being harassed by health-care professionals. While Marrie believes that some of these claims may have been exaggerated, the medical school will be working directly with Capital Health in order to address these issues.

"Remember that students in third- and fourth-year medicine and all our residents work in the Capital Health environment, so some of those elements are out of our control. We both have policies on mistreatment of anybody, not just students. So we've put together a committee to bring organizations together to actually align the policies and start to work on this as one," Marrie said.

The Gateway attempted to reach both the LCME and its Canadian partner, the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools. Neither agency would comment on the appeal.

As of now, the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry plans to implement many of its changes during the coming 2007/08 academic year.

Home life influences university aspirations

CHLOÉ FEDIO
Managing Editor

The fact that household income is linked to a student's likelihood of going on to university has been known for a long time. Now, a new study from Statistics Canada shows that youth with wealthy parents are more likely to go to university than those from low-income families, largely due to the influence of their parents, their parents' educational background and the youth's early academic performance.

Marc Frenette, the author of the study, "Why are youth from lower-income families less likely to attend university?" explained that this type of study was done before in the US, but it's the first of its kind in Canada. Frenette said the conclusions in both countries were similar.

"It's not clear what the mechanism there is, but likely there's some role-modelling effects going on. I do have a measure of parental expectations of the child, which also appears to play an important role," Frenette said.

The study used data from the Youth In Transition Survey (YITS), which

collected the overall school marks, parental education and parental expectations of 15-year-old students, and then followed them until they were 19 to collect information about their university participation. Frenette split the population of surveyed youth into quartiles, based on their parents' incomes.

The results showed that while 31 per cent of youth in the bottom quarter of the income distribution had attended university, 50 per cent of youth from families at the top of the income distribution had attended university.

Only 8.5 per cent of all youth reported money as a factor in their decision to attend postsecondary. But this percentage varied between students from different income distributions: among the lowest income group, 13 per cent said their financial situation was preventing them from going to university, whereas it was six per cent in the top income group.

Though his was a national study, Frenette said that looking at provincial differences would be a useful follow-up study, as there are differences in university attendance by province.

PLEASE SEE STATS • PAGE 2

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Anchors Away!

The old Ship might be sunk, but the Lister landmark has been given a makeover and a new purpose.

FEATURE, PAGE 8-9



Shocking Defeat

The Trinity Western Spartans took advantage of poor Bears serving to ruin Alberta's undefeated season.

SPORTS, PAGE 28

Sex, exams = tiring

Putting together a Purity Test is hard work. As is "studying" for "mid-terms." As such, the Gateway will be on hiatus until 27 February. Until then, have a relaxing reading week, and don't do anything we wouldn't do.



Do you not believe in a God/Creator? (2pts)
 Do you believe in one, but openly mock them anyway? (5pts)
 Do you believe in an afterlife? (-3pts)
 Have you ever proclaimed yourself to be the second coming? (2pts)
 Have you ever given somebody the evil eye? (1pt)
 Did they give you the ol' crook-eye back? (3pts)
 Did they spit on you? (-1pt)
 Did they die? (3pts)
 Have you ever expected the Spanish Inquisition? (-10pts)—nobody expects the Spanish Inquisition!
 Have you ever been excommunicated? (15pts)
 Are you a member of:
 MENSA? (1pt)
 Free Masons? (2pts)
 Church of the Sub-Genius? (2pts)
 Illuminati? (3pts)
 Cult of Cthulhu? (3pts)
 Neighboorhood Watch? (-2pts)
 The yearbook committee? (-3pts)
 Nickelback? (-10pts)
 Have you ever read a Dan Brown novel? (5pts)
 Did you actually enjoy it? (-3pts)

Seventh Circle - The Violent

The violent are divvied up into a number of cursed parties. Those who were violent against people and property are forced to stand in a sea of boiling blood, each one immersed in a level appropriate for the damaged done in their rotten lives. Those who committed violence against their own person are punished for their suicide by being transformed into gnarled, sickly bushes—when the other sinners are resurrected during the Rapture, the suicides will remain in their tree form, each adorned with their own corpse hanging from the twisted branches. Finally, those that were violent against God, nature and art must remain in a lake of burning sand, assailed by a continuous rain of sulfur: the blasphemers lay in the sand, the usurers are forced to sit, and the sodomites roam around in close packs over the barren landscape.

Have you ever been in a fight? (1pt)
 Was it on Whyte Avenue? (3pts)
 Was it because the Oilers lost? (2pts)
 Was it because the Oilers won? (3pts)
 Did you bite someone's nose off? (10pts)
 Have you ever been in a fight/argument with Campus 5-0? (1pt)
 Have you ever been in the Campus Crime Beat? (3pts)
 Have you ever been in a fight/argument with the cops? (3pts)
 A garbage can? (5pts)
 Because it was crackin' wise 'bout your momma? (-2pts)
 Are you a contentious objector? (-3pts)
 Because you're a coward? (5pts)
 So you could kill people at home? (10pts)
 Have you ever teased a dog? (1pt)
 Kicked a dog? (2pts)

Paradise: 0-75

Congratulations, you've lived a good life and will be rewarded upon your death. You may have held some hands or kissed some lips, but it's always been in a monogamous relationship, and you always begged forgiveness afterwards. The only wine you've tasted has been during communion, and grass is what you cut on sunny afternoons. Your afterlife is looking good, but your Friday nights probably aren't—a little boozing and dry humping never hurt anybody.

Gatekeepers in this category: Phil Head, Mike Otto

Purgatory: 76-175

After years of late nights and later mornings, you've now got some choices to make. You've made some mistakes in your life, but nothing too serious that it can't be forgiven. You drank too much, slept too much, neglected religion and played the field, and you may even have some regrets—like the time that you experimented with marijuana and went down on your prof. Fellatio never kept anyone out of heaven, and it won't hold you back either—provided you repent, of course.

Gatekeepers in this category: Adam Gaumont, Krystina Sulatycki

Inferno: 176-275

Yup, you're in hell. Look forward to daily anal rapings from Lucifer himself and plenty of time to think back to where it all went wrong. Maybe it was that drunken orgy with three sorority girls—though that wasn't your fault, you were blacked out at the time. Or it could have been that time

Threw a dog? (3pts)
 Into a woodchipper? (10pts)
 Have you ever killed someone? (50pts)
 Was it your wife/husband? (30pts)
 Was it because divorce takes too long? (100pts)
 Have you killed freedom? (50pts)
 Did the *Independent* write a cover story about it? (-10pts)
 Have you ever started a war? (100pts)
 To win an argument on the Internet? (500pts)
 To eradicate a religion/race/ethnicity? (-100pts), and a death sentence for you Slobby?
 Have you ever committed an illegal sex act? (2pts)
 Are you the reason it is illegal? (5pts)
 Do you watch 24? (1pt)
 Is it to get pointers? (3pts)
 Is Fayed based on you? (50pts)

Is homosexuality a dangerous social experiment? (-1pt)
 Is homosexual chicken a dangerous social experiment? (-3pts)
 Are you a politician? (3pts)
 An elected member of the Students' Union? (-3pts)

Ninth Circle - Treachery

The darkest Circle is reserved for those who have committed the vilest type of sin—the betrayal of a special trust or bond. Here sinners are trapped in lake of frozen ice and immersed in different depths according to the type of trust they betrayed: traitors to their kin, to their country, to their guests and, finally, to their masters. It is here that one will cast eyes upon the horrid visage of Satan, the three-headed beast that eternally chews on the trapped bodies of history's three greatest traitors: Brutus, Cassius and finally, Judas Iscariot, who will always have his head crushed by the jaws of the Morning Star while his back is skinned by the sharp claws of the beast.

Have you ever cheated on your partner? (2pts per time)
 Has someone ever cheated on their partner with you? (2pts per time)
 Have you ever cheated on your partner with someone who was cheating on their partner? (6pts)
 Were all parties involved aware of what was going on? (3pts)
 Did everyone continue dating their original partners like nothing was wrong? (4pts)
 Did you then sing "Free Love Freeway"? (5pts)
 Did you then write a rap opera about it? (-3pts)
 Have you ever snuck an illegal object onto a plane? (1pt)
 Was it drugs? (5pts)
 A boxcutter? (5pts)
 Shampoo? (-5pts)
 A bomb? (50pts)
 A mutherfuckin' snake bomb? (100pts, and an intense Internet following)
 Have you ever betrayed your friends? (1pt)
 Have you ever betrayed your family? (3pts)
 Have you ever betrayed your country? (5pts)
 Has Jack Bauer ever foiled your plans? (10pts)
 Have you ever crossed the floor? (1pt)
 Are you Belinda Stronach? (3pts)
 Have you ever betrayed your student government? (-3pts)
 Have you ever cock-blocked a friend? (1pt)
 Have you ever been cock-blocked? (-1pt)
 Did you pull some Jack Bauer shit to remove the block? (3pts, 1 additional point for every mono-syllabic yell)
 Have you ever cock-amputated a friend? (3pts)
 Literally? (30pts)

And finally ... have you ever eaten a train that you accidentally derailed with your penis for charity? (1500pts)

Deciding your fate

that you threw a rabid dog at a baby. Either way, that burning sensation isn't your vagina/penis—it's the flames engulfing you. It's probably also the gonorrhea.

Gatekeepers in this category: Chloé Fedio, Mike Kendrick, Scott C Bourgeois, Paul Owen, Matt Frehner, Ryan Heise, Morgan Smith, Natalie Climenhaga

Oblivion: 276+

Holy Shit! You're so bad not even Satan himself will touch you. There isn't even an afterlife for people like you; instead, you wink out of existence upon your death. You probably shouldn't have shot up on heroin and then masturbated with the syringe—or shot a man in Reno just to watch him die—and then skull-fuck the hate away—but this pale in comparison to that time you jizzed all over your napping grandfather in front of your grandma's bridge group after you defecated on the automatic card-shuffler and did all that coke off of their plastic-covered couch. Killing all those unwed mothers didn't help you either, even if you were just meting out justice on behalf of God.

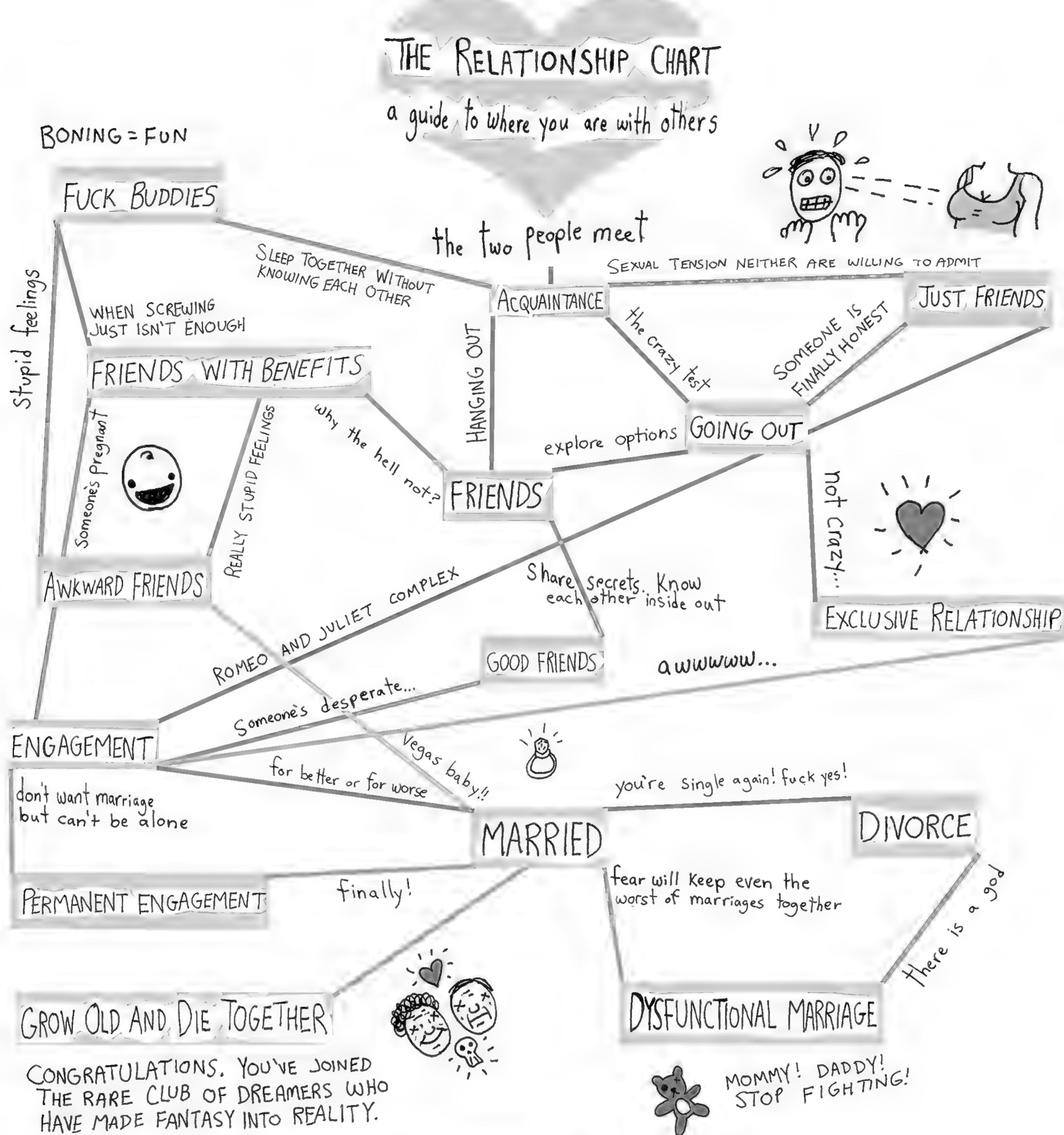
Gatekeepers in this category: Elizabeth McMillan, Amanda Ash, Scott Lilwall

Think your soul's even more damned than ours? Cool off with a free pair of tickets to Marmot Basin's Ski & Snowboard Adventure before securing yourself an eternity of hellfire and brimstone. Send your most vile, lewd and convincing true tales of sin and debauchery to gateway@gateway.ualberta.ca for a chance to win!

The Gateway's Valentine's Day Massacre

(sans massacre)

with contributions from Victor Vargas, Mike Robertson, and Conal Pierse



Reached that magic point in your relationship where the Missionary and the Reverse Cowgirl just aren't cutting it any more? Here are a few "alternative" techniques you can bring into the bedroom to rekindle those lost passions!

Abe Lincoln - Cumming on your partners face and then sticking on pubic hair to make a beard

Alligator Fuck House - When two or more men fuck a woman in water (preferably a swamp)

Angry Pirate - Cumming in a persons eye and then kicking them in the shin

Donkey Punch - While having sex doggy style, punching your partner in the back of the head as you climax.

Golden Shower - Peeing on someone's face

Houdini - Pulling out just before you come, and spitting on your partners back so that they turn around in time to get a facial.

Mexican Hurricane - When you come in a persons hair and then throw them down the stairs

Munging - Digging up a fresh corpse and fucking it. Afterwards, you place your mouth over the dead persons vagina and have a friend jump on the stomach, and then eating the resulting

mouthful.

Pterodactyl - Grabbing the bedsheets and flapping them like wings while you shout "Caw! Caw!"

Ralph Klein - Shitting in someones mouth and then having them offer you an honourary degree and a teaching position

Rodeo - Seeing how long you can continue to fuckagirlafteryourfriendshavejumpedoutofthe closet (or alternatively: after you tell her that you have AIDS)

Rusty Trombone - Performing analingus on a man whilst giving him a handjob

Space Docking - Shitting in a womans vagina

Top Gun - After receiving a blowjob from someone in a car, opening the door, booting them out, and screaming GOOOOOSE!!! as you peel off

Zombie Mask - Giving a partner a facial and watching as they try to find the bathroom in the dark



Cat fetishes as crazy as *World of Warcraft*

Teatro la Quindicina's latest production, *House Of Cats*, tells how our everyday addictions are equivalent to those held by cat women

Preview: *House Of Cats*

Directed by Stewart Lemoine
Starring Chris Burroughs, Davina Stewart and Leona Braulsen
Runs 15 February to 3 March
Varscona Theatre

JONN KMECH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

You know them as the cat women, those crazy ladies who seem to collect felines and reside in their dark, shady abodes with dozens of furry companions. But the next time you're walking quickly by a cat house, trying to avoid eye contact with the frumpy woman who's staring at you, the exuberant cast of *House Of Cats* would like you to think about your blog and your harrowing addiction to online role-playing games.

"The play asks, 'What's crazy?'" notes Chris Bullough, who plays Officer Malcolm Bailey, an Edmonton city bylaw officer investigating a suspected cat house owned by two sisters in Capilano. "Is having tons of cats crazy or is being addicted to *World of Warcraft* crazy? It's about those obsessions we have; why is one crazier than the other?

"[Bullough]'s character is obsessed with his blog and *World of Warcraft*, and we're obsessed with our cats," continues Davina Stewart, one of the cat sisters. "We can't understand his fascination, then we try to explain why we have all these cats."

This feline fixation is the latest venture directed by veteran Edmonton playwright Stewart Lemoine for Teatro la Quindicina at the Varscona Theatre. This time, Lemoine handed over the writing reins to another prominent Edmonton playwright, Cathleen Rootsaert, author of *Mama Mia! Me A Mama?, Make Me* and *Abigail In Twilight*. This theatrical collaboration found inspiration from some of Edmonton's zany cat laws, which the performers were schooled in as preparation for their roles by an enthusiastic Edmonton city bylaw officer.

"[The sisters] are reported to the city as having more than six cats, and there's a bylaw in Edmonton that you can't have six or more cats," Stewart explains. "Two or three cat houses are shut down and condemned per year in the city, apparently. You can also get fined \$100 if someone complains about your cat roaming in their yard. As well, [the bylaw officer] gave us all of the paraphernalia of cat houses, like cat carriers and the cat box.

"The cat box looks like a folding chair, for when the cat is like, 'Squeee! Squeee!'" screams Bullough, rearing back like a rabid kitty. "You take it and go 'bonk,' and it clamps around them so they can't get out. Then you can carry them away in one hand. I got a really good idea of what the job was like for [the officer], short of going to an actual cat house. She's a pretty amazing person to talk to, the bylaw officer. She's hunted for bears



TARA STIEGLITZ

HERE, KITTY KITTY KITTY Teatro la Quindicina's *House Of Cats* will make you question your everyday obsessions.

in the river valley and scaled buildings to get iguanas."

Aside from their education in the intricacies of cat wrangling, Stewart and Bullough are both alumni of the University of Alberta Fine Arts program. With Bullough recently earning a Sterling award for best actor and

Stewart's two decades of experience in the Edmonton acting scene, the crew of *House Of Cats* should have no problem convincing you that there isn't much difference between owning a dozen cats and finally reaching level 70 with your elite Orc shaman.

"You always hear about those cat

ladies and cat houses," Bullough adds. "But then for some reason it's still acceptable in society to say, 'Oh god, I didn't get any sleep last night. I was up all night playing this fantasy game, roaming around being this other character, discovering new lands, fighting and going on raids.'"

Josh Ritter reconnects with roots, plays solo tour

Josh Ritter

With Colin Priester and John Guliak
Monday, 19 February at 8pm
The Powerplant

ALYSSA PANKIW
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The delicate task of being taken seriously as a young, male singer-songwriter is something rock artist Josh Ritter has struggled with over his decade-long career, but his topical lyrics and intricate instrumentals have helped him find as comfortable a middle ground as an artist can expect.

According to the 29-year-old musician, much of his sound is influenced by his commitment to a dedicated fan base and his awareness of emerging listeners. His latest album, *The Animal Years*, began as a raw exploration of the present, but ultimately became a chance to reconnect with his roots after *Hello Starling*, a more pop-friendly third collection.

"Each time, it's about balancing a new idea for a sound with what you loved about what you did before," Ritter says. "For me, there has to be an optimism—a sense that no matter what, you're not going to leave people with a full-on tragedy. There's so many fragile men with guitars out there who start the record off and it's just bleak; it sounds like they're stabbing a raccoon with a screwdriver. Then the record ends and you think, 'How can all that pain be real?' I never put much stress

on the torture thing."

Ritter does, however, stress the importance of keeping something of himself in his work and his first collaboration with producer, Brian Deck, allowed him the freedom to do just that.

"There's so many fragile men with guitars out there who start the record off and it's just bleak; it sounds like they're stabbing a raccoon with a screwdriver."

JOSH RITTER

"A lot of the people I talk to worked on a record and it wasn't about the songs as they were, and about the content of the songs, it was about how we can make them a hit, make them something that's going to fit on the radio," Ritter says. "Deck never said anything like that to me. He made me feel like we were just going to be touching down on this weird planet. He made me see the potential in recording that I see in performing."

Some of that potential led to the unique sound on Ritter's latest album with its rollicking upbeat tracks inspired by his native Idaho and

contrasted by eloquent, often political whispers of songs growing out of his views on the state of the world. This experimental approach towards his music lends to its charm and he admits that he doesn't believe in an album being entirely about one thing.

"I don't really like the concept album very much, because they make the songs serve to the record and not the record serve to the songs. I usually find that when I sit down to write, I get led off in a different direction," Ritter explains. "If you're just trying to write and have fun, the songs are way more slippery. I'll always like some songs for the time that I experience them, and some songs will just keep changing as time goes on."

Josh feels fortunate that his fans also accept this evolution and his decision to bring a solo acoustic tour to Canada at this point in his life. He hasn't hit the road without his band in years, and is excited to get the chance to relive his beginnings, playing in coffee shops as an eager 18-year-old. Now, upon returning to small venues, he's experienced in the importance of artistic balance and the gravity of give and take.

And of fame, Ritter admits it comes second to his first and foremost love: music.

"It's a quick pat on the back, but at the beginning and at the end, it's still you, sitting in your room, trying to get the right word for what you're going to say," Ritter concludes.



A Constant question of marriage

Preview: *The Constant Wife*

Written by W Somerset Maugham
Starring Brenda Robins and Fiona Reid
Directed by Bob Baker
Runs until 4 March
Citadel Theatre

MARIA KOTOVYCH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Long before the women of *Sex and the City* or *Desperate Housewives* were born, there lived a woman named Constance Middleton. Constance's husband cheated on her. Everyone but Constance was aware of this, and they debated whether she should know and whether to tell her.

The characters in the Citadel Theatre's *The Constant Wife* debate the drama that often surrounds marriage and the standards of fidelity set for women and men. On one side of the argument is Mrs Culver (played by Order of Canada recipient Fiona Reid), who feels that it's all right for a man to have a little fling, as long as he continues to provide for his wife and take care of her. On the other side is Martha Culver, Constance's younger sister and Mrs Culver's daughter, who argues that both men and women should be faithful.

"If a woman [had a fling], Mrs Culver wouldn't think that was right," says Vanessa Holmes, who plays Martha Culver.

Holmes' character, along with others, point out the sexism in Mrs Culver's belief, asking her why it's all right for a man to stray, but not a woman. The play has a feminist bend, and Holmes thinks that even though *The Constant Wife* was written in 1926, it's a reflection of our day and age.

"I think what's fascinating about this play is that it's written in the '20s, but it was so ahead of its time in its opinions on men and women and their relationships and what marriage is," Holmes says. "[The play] is about smart women and women who, in Constance's respect, take control of their lives, regardless of what the men in their lives are doing."

Holmes thinks that just like in the play, people nowadays also have differing attitudes about marriage. And even though Holmes herself agrees



with her character's belief that people in a marriage should be faithful, she mentions that the debate in the play has helped her see the validity of the other perspective. For instance, Holmes admits to thinking, "Hmm ... she's got a bit of a point," when hearing another character presenting an opinion different from her own.

"[The play makes] you see the arguments for both sides of the story; whether you think they're right or wrong, it's easy to see people's reasoning for whatever they do in relationships sometimes," Holmes says.

But with that in mind, Holmes thinks most people in the audience will agree with her character's view of

marriage, even if they don't approve of the approach she takes. Holmes thinks that her character is a bit of a troublemaker, especially since she's someone who doesn't accept a double standard of behaviour for married men and women.

"If people are hiding something, she's going to try and point it out," Holmes says.

Holmes says that her character is a younger sister of a sibling who has always done well, and takes pleasure in looking for flaws in other people, especially when she thinks she's right.

"She's not quite tactful at times," says Holmes. "She wreaks a bit of havoc."



SWEET SOMETHIN' STEADY Winnipeg's Romi Mayes sang her country blues on Friday night at the Starlite Room. Although most of her music has dark, depressing edge to it, her performance was upbeat and highly contagious.

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Campus Recreation Enhancement Fund 2007-2008 Applications

The Campus Recreation Enhancement Fund (CREF) was created to help ensure that high quality campus recreation programs, equipment and facilities remain diverse, convenient, accessible, equitable, and affordable to all University of Alberta Students' Union members.

Recreation for all is an integral part of a positive U of A experience. Therefore, those organizations applying for funding from CREF must show that their request will have a positive impact on student life at the University of Alberta. The request must facilitate healthy, active lifestyles for University of Alberta students.

Deadline for applications: Fri., March 2 @ 4PM
Application forms may be obtained in the
Campus Recreation Offices
Rm. W-10 and W-90, Van Vliet Centre
or ONLINE at:
www.campusrec.ualberta.ca

Financial support available to facilitate healthy, active lifestyle projects!

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The Perms ride the perfect wave between music, school



The Perms

With Red Ram, and Christian Hansen and the Autistics
16 February at 9pm
Sidetrack Café

CARLA KAVINTA
Arts & Entertainment Writer

As many students can attest, juggling school with work can prove to be an arduous task. But imagine a day at work involving countless hours of rehearsals, interviews and touring across the country. Just ask Shane Smith of the Perms and he can offer any aspiring musician advice on achieving a balance between playing music and paying the bills.

Fresh out of nursing school, Smith enjoys life as a psych nurse but admits it was definitely hard to be both a student and a musician. At the end of the day, however, his devotion to music is firmly established.

"I did a lot of papers on the road. A lot of studying on the road. We were out west one time and I remember I had a paper due the next day and we had drinks that night, of course,"

Smith says. "So I wrote the paper after the show, and I was reading it thinking, 'What the hell is this? What did I write?' I didn't do too well on it but whatever, I got by. That gives you an idea of a lot of the sacrifice you have to make in order to keep your passion alive. Sometimes you gotta do that."

According to Smith, every aspect of The Perms' music is worth the occasional C+ as he describes his dedication to performing and being on the road.

"We're a touring band so that's what we like doing," Smith says. "We like



performing live and being busy."

Come Friday's show, audiences can expect an energized and uplifting performance as reflected in the group's 2005 album, *Better Days*, with only one minor difference: The Perms' horn player of four years recently left the group, altering their sound from a '60s pop vibe to something a little edgier. Despite the change, Smith retains a positive outlook towards their next album.

"It's just kind of a grassroots, in-your-face kind of rock record," Smith explains. "That's where we're at right now and we're actually pretty happy with being a three-piece. It's a pretty

tight unit at this point and we're enjoying ourselves."

Just as the disappearance of a horn section was unintentional, The Perms are clear that this more-rock-than-pop sound is just as involuntary. Instead, the group simply writes the music and lets nature take its course.

"We don't go out trying to write a softer song or a heavier song," Smith says. "It's kind of just something that evolves through the songwriting process. We don't initially go out saying, 'Let's write a heavy song.' It just kind of produces itself naturally."

After many years of sacrificing school, facing rejection and tirelessly

promoting their album, the Winnipeg trio has learned that it's essential to maintain perspective, settling for a more easy-going approach to their music.

"Certainly for starters, we took things a bit too seriously, you know, trying to get that record deal or trying to achieve different successes and if it didn't happen we were a little frustrated," Smith says. "In the past four or five years, we just wanted to have fun. Fun for us means being on the road, fun for us means playing live and writing songs. And if we do get picked up by a label, then so be it. Whatever happens, happens."

The Perms

Better Days
Hugtight Records
www.theperms.com

CARLA KAVINTA
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Better Days extends beyond the realm of The Perms' power-pop genre. Although "Lies" and "The Comfort Of It All" are reminiscent of '60s feel-good bands, other songs are more fitted to the alt-rock genre, including "While I'm Away."

Lyrical, The Perms stray from anything dark, heavy or melodramatic. Instead, lyrics reflecting a carefree and optimistic attitude can be heard, only reinforced by a consistent upbeat tempo. Even so, the multi-talented musicians show their serious side in slower songs like "Versus" and "Holding On."

Compared to the likes of Weezer, Elvis Costello and the Beach Boys, The Perms are a testament to an authentic pop sound, exhibiting a variety of influences spanning time and genre. Although their new album, sans horns, reverts back to a more raw sound, it's still sure to impress with pleasure-inducing arrangements and perhaps an even more enlivening sound.

06/07 ELECTIONS QUESTIONS

STUDENTS WILL VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING REFERENDA AND PLEBISCITE QUESTIONS ON THE BALLOT IN THE MARCH 7 AND 8 STUDENTS' UNION ELECTION:

1 Do you support the establishment of a Universal Bus Pass (U-Pass) subject to the following conditions?

- The U-Pass would provide unlimited usage of Edmonton Transit System, St. Albert Transit, and Strathcona County Transit during the Fall and Winter Terms to undergraduate students enrolled in courses on the University of Alberta campuses located within the Edmonton City Limits.
- The cost of the U-Pass to each student would be mandatory; and would
 - be \$75.00 per Fall or Winter term for the 2007/2008 academic year; and
 - increase annually at a rate less than or equal to the Consumer Price Index for the province of Alberta.
- The U-Pass would be optional for the following:
 - students not enrolled in courses located on a University of Alberta campus within Edmonton for the majority of a term;
 - students unable to make use of ordinary transit services by reason of disability;
 - students who are senior citizens; and
 - students employed by Edmonton Transit System, St. Albert Transit, or Strathcona County Transit.
- The U-Pass would expire upon
 - the outcome of a subsequent referendum thereon; or it
 - being no longer practicable for the Student's Union to adhere to any of (1) through (3).

2 Do you support a beverage agreement between the Students' Union, the University of Alberta and Coca-Cola Bottling Ltd. subject to the following conditions?

- Coca-Cola will continue to be the exclusive supplier of cold beverages on campus*.
- The beverage agreement would
 - provide an average of \$524,377 annually, that would continue to be committed to scholarships, bursaries and student services;
 - be retroactively implemented as of June 1, 2005 and run until May 31, 2015;
 - eliminate the two year period during which the University of Alberta and the Students' Union will not receive an exclusive rights fee.
- The 1998 beverage agreement between the Students' Union, the University of Alberta and Coca-Cola Bottling Ltd. will be retroactively terminated as of May 31, 2005.
- All Students' Union members will be able to view the current beverage agreement.

*Campus is defined by the current agreement and excludes Augustana Campus



www.su.ualberta.ca/vote

SU ELECTIONS MARCH 7TH & 8TH

If you would like to register as part of the YES or NO campaign for either of these plebiscite questions you must attend the upcoming Candidates Meeting. The Candidates Meeting will be held on Thursday February 15 at 6PM on the 3rd Floor of SUB.

For more information about how to register a plebiscite or referendum side, please email the Chief Returning Officer at cro@su.ualberta.ca

Painting a polished portrait

Review: *Frida K*

Written by Gloria Montero
Directed by Peter Hinton
Starring Allegra Fulton
Runs 6-25 February
Citadel Theatre

EAMON MCGRATH
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Attending *Frida K* will not send you to the same realm as Salma Hayek's attempt at feminist iconography. There's absolutely nothing "supermodel-turned-Germaine Greer" about Allegra Fulton's frighteningly realistic depiction of the tormented and influential Mexican painter who focused her anger and depression into some of the most powerful and recognizable art of the 20th century. Instead, *Frida K* is as honest as art gets, and manages to evoke the true power of the theatre: it's at once a visual spectacle, an emotional journey and a moving, living, breathing sculpture, anchored in a passionate and engrossing narrative.

Frida K opens with a frail Frida Kahlo emerging from behind a set adorned with some rather graphic imagery from her paintings—bleeding hearts, skeletons, aborted fetuses—and continues to enigmatically describe her tragic life, as though Kahlo herself is looking back on it, picking apart the moments, smells, tastes and textures she would have remembered.

From Kahlo's romantic involvement with Leon Trotsky, to the roots of her political motivations to confessional passages describing Kahlo's love for fellow Mexican Marxist-expressionist Diego Rivera, Fulton manages to change herself like human clay, crafting a character so believable and convincing that Kahlo's memories almost become her own in front of your eyes. Fulton attacks the role



with a physically visable conviction and devotion, doing the impossible in making the events of another's life appear truly personal.

Frida K doesn't even suffer from the stereotypical shortcomings of modern theatre—over-the-top acting, superfluous set design, saliva onslaughts, et al—and gives an example of how to create gripping, emotional work without pretension or desperation. Fulton is a total natural and her projected honesty makes the play's political and artistic subtleties that much more enhanced and relevant. *Frida K* is as confident as it is modest, humble as it is powerful and relaxed as it is intense, creating a tension felt by everybody in the playhouse, evident by the standing ovation at the play's end.

Gloria Montero, Fulton's mother, is the star behind the scenes. Her elegant script develops the tensions in Kahlo's life with delicacy and care, resulting in a climactic and enveloping drama. Kahlo, constantly torn in two—between attempts at motherhood and sterility, Mexico and Europe, socialism and democracy, Rivera and Trotsky—

was a woman who found a face for her unrest and it was her own. Montero captures these maddening parallels in her script with perfectly pitched intricacy and detail: any more attention given to these tensions would make the play's messages too obvious and overblown, but any less would have made them untraceable. Montero tends to each subject perfectly, and with the perfect amount of time given to each aspect of Kahlo's life, which so tragically pulls it in two.

Frida K is an enormous artistic success, polished and perfected to the point where it becomes truly unforgettable. Unlike other attempts at a biography of Kahlo—ahem, major motion pictures starring supermodels pretending to be actresses—*Frida K* is grassroots, independent and unafraid. *Frida K* tackles the tragedies in Kahlo's life worth tackling, without becoming confusing or redundant, even for a second. The bar has officially been raised and it's going to take a lot to get to the same level of greatness that Montero and Fulton have found for themselves here.

Hipsters, please don't test me



ALYSSA
PANKIW

Enough is enough. People in Edmonton need to stop being pretentious about music already. Music is supposed to bring enjoyment to our lives, not become just another opportunity to exercise exclusivity. At a bar this weekend, I was shocked by the fact that I was actually interrogated about my musical knowledge by a guy that was trying to buy me a beer. I could not believe that my Rolling Stones T-shirt was being questioned for its authenticity, or that I was being pegged as someone with a less-than-average grasp on the definition of decent music, based on, as far as I could tell, nothing more than my appearance.

The guy asked me about my favourite Stones song, then my favourite album and my defensive answers led to an elaborate set of inquiries into dates, names and bios. Hey, I know enough about bands to realize that their music makes me feel good, but hell if I know what Keith Richards' first pet was named or what month *Beggars Banquet* was recorded in. That has nothing to do with how good it feels to sing along to "Sympathy for the Devil," and I believe

that getting too technical about music might even begin to take away from its true essence.

The direction music is taking today makes for an interesting amalgamation of genres. Various bands have crossed boundaries that bind different sounds, making the definition of "good" music incredibly elusive. It simultaneously makes a "good" fan hard to label, and that's why it's no wonder that the stereotypical Misfits fan of 2006 may not look like they did ten years ago—watch out moms, it'll be harder to spot if they've infiltrated your daughter's lives—and today's Deadheads are wearing suits instead of tie-dyed tees.

I'm just waiting for the day that I'll be able to express my musical tastes freely and not be quizzed about them by some ostentatious scenester in skinny jeans.

So don't assume that you'll be able to guess someone's favourite musical genre based solely on what they're wearing: the fact of the matter is, if you love a band, then you should be able to support it by buying their merchandise. Just don't wear a Sex Pistols

shirt to get the attention of the cute guy with the mohawk in science class, or a Bob Marley beanie to impress that babe with the dreads and the bong in residence. If you fake your love of a band, you will be found out. Trust me; some prick at a pub will make sure of it and you'll never live it down.

At times, people's real musical motivation should be questioned, it's true. I'm just waiting for the day that I'll be able to express my musical tastes freely and not be quizzed about them by some ostentatious scenester in skinny jeans. So don't waste my time with vignettes about Bob Dylan's real name, or drop facts like you know the Yeah Yeah Yeahs. It doesn't matter how often you frequent the Starlite Room or how much black eyeliner you wear, you still might not know quality music if it hit you in the face with a guitar. And that girl with the bleached blonde hair might actually know every riff of Pink Floyd's *The Wall* by heart; you can never really tell. So whether it's Britney Spears or Black Sabbath that gets you off, sing along whether you know their stats or not. People should respect you for your passion for music—although maybe not Miss Spears'—rather than your memorization of it.

And if you're wondering about the credibility of my "vintage" Zeppelin tee or my opinion, don't worry; it comes with the knowledge that "Bron-Y-Aur Stomp" really was about Robert Plant's dog after all.

gateway student journalism society
PRESENTS

GSJS Special General Meeting
Wednesday, 14 February, 2007 at 4pm
Room 3-04 Students' Union Building

All members of the Society are encouraged to attend.

The purpose of meeting is for the election of volunteer representatives to sit on hiring committees. Pizza will be served.

Society Members are those with five contributions in the 365 days prior to the meeting who have opted-in with a Gateway editor. If you have five contributions in the 365 days prior to the meeting but have not opted-in, you may do so at the meeting.

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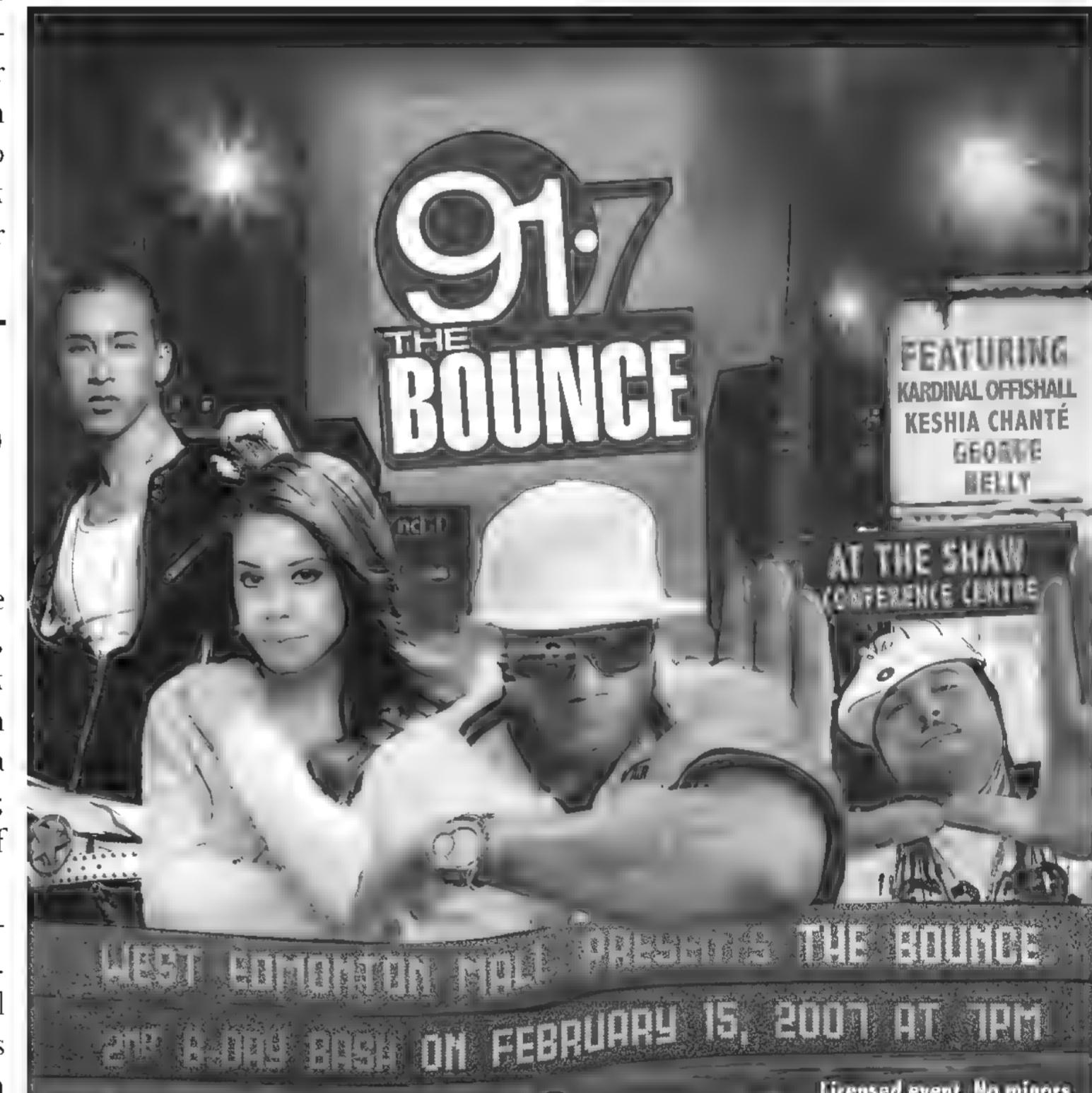
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Wanna win tickets to The Bounce's B-Day Bash on 15 February at 7pm in the Shaw Conference Centre?

You do?

Really?

Well, then, come up to 3-04 SUB, approach one of the editors and rap some homemade rhymes about Harry Potter.

If we like your stylez, you'll get a pass!

Is that not funky?

WORD.

Ten Second Epic halfway through their musical odyssey

After topping the charts and having their video on rotation, TSE are still pushing themselves forward

Ten Second Epic

With The Spill Canvas
Friday, 16 February at 7pm
The Powerplant

JOEL TIEDEMANN
Arts & Entertainment Staff

From being a high-school band to becoming a nationally renowned music group, Ten Second Epic has hit some impressive benchmarks. But their latest album, *Count Yourself In*, vaulted the band to a new high within the music industry, when the new album started topping the charts.

"We were hoping for that with the new album, but we know just as well as everyone else that even if you put out a great album there's a lot of factors involved in getting the attention that it might deserve or might not deserve," says lead singer Andrew Usenik. "Luckily for us, the right

people got behind it and the right mediums started playing our music and people have reacted well to it and it caught on. We are obviously really happy and we want to keep pushing it as far as we can go with it."

Playing national tours and having their music broadcast on national radio and television stations is quite a change from playing shows at local Edmonton venues. However, reaching new audiences is always a challenge, and Ten Second Epic plans to much to promote their music by touring within Canada and the States—that is, with the help of a crew that never ceases to provide constructive feedback or down a few beers once in a while.

"We're all best friends and best friends with the guys on our crew so it's kind of like a road trip with buddies every time," Usenik laughs. "Beyond music, it's important to be on



the road with people you like. We're pretty social guys and it's very important for us to be playing with bands we are friends with and bands we get along with and bands who don't have a huge ego."

All of the unique situations that the

band has experienced while on the road haven't diminished their enthusiasm for playing shows in their hometown. According to Usenik, the band has a great core of support and an awesome fan base in Edmonton. They especially love seeing people who possess

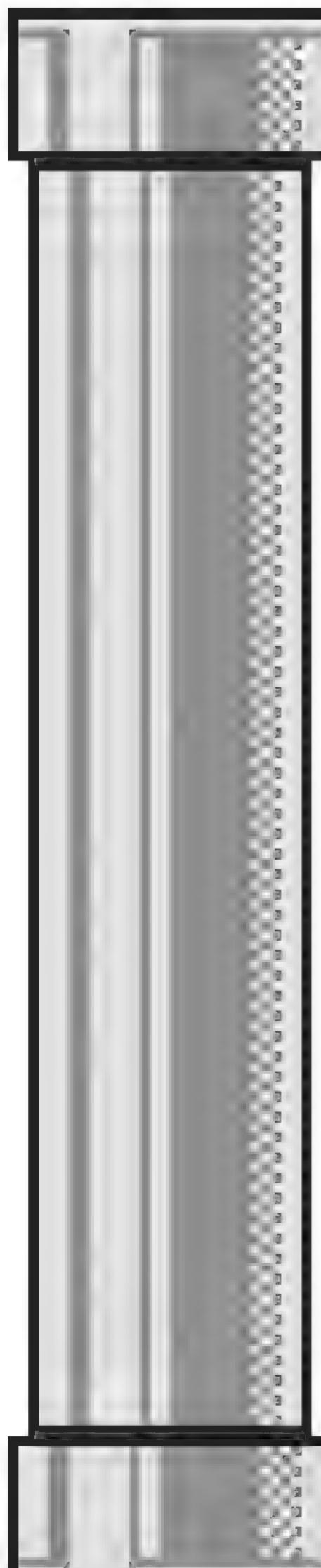
completely different musical tastes coming to their shows.

"Every time we play [in Edmonton] it's just saying thank you because, realistically, we would have never gotten to where we are today without that initial support."

This is not an actual Internet tube, but an artist's recreation.

Real Internet tubes
are filled with banner ads, pornography, YouTube videos and the *Gateway's* news.

Not Italian stereo-types.



[http://
www.
thegatewayonline.
ca/](http://www.thegatewayonline.ca/)

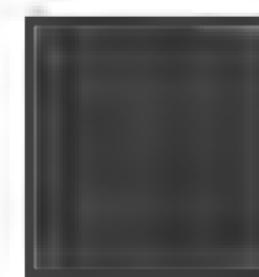
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Volunteer Opportunities Boards & Committees



TERMS OF OFFICE: 1 MAY 2007 TO 30 APRIL 2008 (IN MOST CASES)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, 12 MARCH, 2007, 5:00 PM NO EXCEPTIONS

SUBMIT COMPLETE PACKAGE TO 2-900 SUB

APPLICATION FORMS: AVAILABLE AT SU RECEPTION DESK 2-900 SUB, AND SUB, HUB, CAB, ETLC INFO BOOTHS AND FACULTY ASSOCIATION OFFICES OR ONLINE AT WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA.

Important instructions

- Please submit only single sided documents. We thank everyone who applies, however ONLY shortlisted applicants will be notified.
- Please be available for the noted interview time.
- Applicants must be undergraduate students and have paid full Students' Union fees.
- Positions subject to Council ratification and signing of employment contract.

STUDENTS' UNION BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

ACADEMIC RELATIONS GROUP

- Participate in activities raising student awareness of academic issues
- Assists and advises the Vice-President Academic on academic issues.
- Participates in workshops & seminars to improve teaching on campus
- Deals with activities relating to student awareness of academic issues

*For further information contact the VP Academic Amanda Henry at 492-4236
Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, after 5:00 pm.*

CAMPAIGN PLANNING AND ACTION COMMITTEE

- Assists and advises the Associate Vice President External
- Creates activities connecting the Students' Union & U of A students with the greater Edmonton community

For further information contact the VP External David Cournoyer at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, after 5:00 pm.

PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

- Makes recommendations regarding SU entertainment, planning & implementation
- Major events-WOW & Antifreeze
- Assists and advises the Vice-President Student Life

For further information contact VP Student Life Omer Yusuf at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, after 5:00 PM

STUDENT LIFE ADVISORY BOARD

- Provides input on non-academic issues on campus
- Provides input on Student Services issues
- Major events WOW & Antifreeze

• Assists and advises the Vice-President Student Life

For further information contact VP Student Life Omer Yusuf at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, after 5:00 PM

AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE

- Selects annual SU award winners
- Involved in numerous aspects of planning annual awards night

For further information contact the Executive Assistant Catherine van de Braak at 492-4241.

Interviews scheduled for Thursday, April 12

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

COMMITTEE ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- Requires 1 undergraduate student
- To recommend policy and serve as the focal point for consideration of policy issues in the University community

MEETS: At the call of the Chair

Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, after 5:00 pm

ONECARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Requires 1 undergraduate student to provide valuable feedback and guidance on all aspects of the current and future ONEcard operations.

MEETS: At the call of the Chair

For further information on Standing Committees contact the VP Academic Amanda Henry at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, after 5:00 pm.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA SENATE

- Requires 3 undergraduate students appointed by the Students' Union
- The Senate's responsibility is to inquire into any matter that may enhance the image of the University and act as a link between the University and the public. The Senate may also authorize the conferring of Honorary Degrees.

MEETS: Four times yearly

For further information contact the VP External Dave Cournoyer at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, after 5:00 pm.

FACULTY BASED INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY STEERING COMMITTEE

- Requires 4 undergraduate students appointed by the Students' Union
- Successful candidates should have an interest and basic knowledge of information/communication technology and/or campus computing environments.

For further information contact the VP Academic Amanda Henry at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, after 5:00 pm.

Spartans hand volleyball Bears first loss

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor

For the second-straight time, Trinity Western was celebrating at the expense of the Bears volleyball team.

In a game that was strangely similar to last year's National Championship Final, TWU handed the Bears their first loss of the season on Friday in straight sets, 26-24, 25-22 and 25-20. The Spartan victory marked a turnaround in the biggest rivalry in CIS volleyball, as Alberta (17-1) has traditionally dominated TWU (13-5).

"We've had a lot of struggles in this gym, and I've got a lot of bad memories in here, so it's nice to get a good one, finally," said Josh Howatson, Spartans setter-turned-middle.

"[This loss] is bad. Especially to those guys. We don't like losing to Trinity: it sucks," Alberta middle Derek Proudfoot added.

With an injury to middle Doug Van Spronsen, Howatson was moved into his spot and first-year Chaim Schalk inserted at setter for the Spartans. Despite the roster changes, TWU caused problems for Golden Bear hitters all night long, holding them to a measly .265 hitting percentage.

"Given the changes we've made, I think we played well; there were a lot of unforced errors out there tonight," Trinity Western coach Ron Pike said.

"We're actually glad to be playing a team like the Bears—that's as good as they are—because it's going to force us and test us and we're going to have to do some good things with this lineup if we're going to be successful."

In addition to their problems hitting, Alberta had 18 service errors to only six for the Spartans—who had a



BUMP IT UP The Bears defence was solid, but they made too many mistakes serving and on offence to overcome Trinity Western. It was Alberta's first loss all year.

.306 hitting percentage and bungled six serves.

"We had so many momentum-breaking errors that we never got the chance to get on a roll. Both teams made errors, but we made a lot more, and we made them when we tried to come back and then missed a serve, missed a free ball or shanked a pass," Golden Bears head coach Terry Danyluk said.

"We just couldn't get together and

rally behind anything," Proudfoot added.

Saturday saw a sharp turnaround as the Bears won the first two sets of the rematch, but TWU won the next two before bowing out in the fifth set.

"Our guys came more ready to play tonight. It was a better response to what was thrown at us," Danyluk said.

While the win reasserted the Golden Bears as a favourite at Nationals, it

didn't remove the sting of Friday's loss. For the third-straight season, Alberta will head into the playoffs with only a single regular-season loss. Danyluk noted that having locked up a playoff bye, home court at the Canada West finals and a berth at nationals might have led to his team's poor start.

"It looked like we weren't playing with a purpose at the beginning—we just kinda came because we knew we

were in first place and we're waiting two weeks for the playoffs to start. In some sense, that's what it felt like; the types of errors we made were focus errors," he said. "Is it easy to get complacent? Maybe. Is it hard to fire up? Maybe. But one of the things that should have been in the back of people's minds is that this is the team we lost to last year, and we should have come here to set a point."



DIVING DIG Jocelyn Blair has become one of Alberta's best players in both the offensive and defensive end, earning her high praise from the opposition.

Volley Pandas sweep TWU, finish second in CanWest

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI
Sports Staff

Entering the final weekend of the regular season, the Pandas volleyball team knew they would once again be making an appearance in the post-season. What they didn't know was their finishing seed or where they would hit the court for the first round. However, with an impressive and mildly surprising sweep of the Trinity Western University (TWU) Spartans (15-5), the Pandas (16-4) secured second place and home court to start the playoffs.

The wins, a five-set marathon victory on Friday and a 3-1 follow-up on Saturday, save Alberta from becoming road warriors for the next three weeks, as they try to better their sixth-place finish at last year's CIS National Championship.

"In Canada West, when you're on the road—you're on the road," Alberta head coach Laurie Eisler said in reference to the long-distance travelling that occurs in the conference that encompasses half the country. "With Manitoba finishing first, there was a potential coming into this weekend that we could have gone from Vancouver to Winnipeg to Calgary

for three consecutive weekends. To over come that [playoff schedule] would be grueling and difficult for any team."

Instead, a pair of victories means home court advantage against Simon Fraser University (SFU) for an Alberta team that seemed to fit their stride over the two games with TWU. After handing over 16 free points to the Spartans courtesy of service errors on Friday, the Pandas settled down on Saturday, committing only four.

In addition to finding the range for their serves over the series, Alberta's Daryll Roper made a handful of improbable digs to continue key rallies while both Tiffany Dodds and Jocelyn Blair frustrated the Spartans with their attacks. The impressive third-years combined for 33 of the team's 50 kills on Friday and nearly matched that performance on Saturday when they accounted for 32 of Alberta's 54 successful attacks—dominant performances that didn't go unnoticed by their opponent.

"Alberta's a strong team all around and you can't let up on them. They have some of the best outside hitters in the country; you've got to battle back and take care of your own side," TWU head coach Ryan Hofer said.

"Jocelyn Blair and Dodds are great players, but Blair is a standout. She has great strength and she passes well; she hits well, and when you put those together, you have a great combination. She's amazing."

"[Dodds and Blair] certainly carry a load in our offence, but I don't know if I would single out two people because two people can't do it alone, and the work that our middles do creates the room for the people on the outside," Eisler added. "If they don't create that space, then it's a lot harder for the team to beat a defence as good as Trinity Western."

The Pandas will get to see a much different team on Friday when they open up a best-of-three Canada West playoff series against SFU, who finished seventh in Canada West and just squeaked into the playoffs. Alberta took all but one set against SFU (6-14) in two conference games this year, so it could be a quick weekend for the offensively dominant Pandas.

"[SFU is] a very good team, but they're a different style of team and it brings different types of challenges for us," Eisler said. "But when it comes to playoff time, it's all about what we're going to do as opposed to someone on the other side of the net."

Young McDonald yielding bumper crop offensively

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor

While the Golden Bears hockey team has been blessed with veteran-heavy rosters for the past few seasons, it hasn't stopped standout freshmen from coming into the system and making an immediate impact offensively. Two seasons ago, it was Ben Kilgour, notching 30 points in 26 games. Last year, Dylan Stanley led all scorers in the University Cup en route to a National Championship.

This season's Bears team may feature more rookies than veterans, but once again, one first-year has distanced himself from the pack and become one of Alberta's top scoring threats. Ian McDonald, a 22-year-old from Edmonton who played his junior hockey for the Tri-Cities Americans, sits third on the team and ninth in Canada West with 32 points through 30 games this season. He's been a big part of helping the Bears finish first in the conference, despite dressing eleven rookies and suffering through injuries to many veterans earlier this season.

"When we struggled early with injuries, Ian really stepped up to the plate, and I could put anybody with him, and he made them better," says Bears head coach Eric Thurston. "He wants to be the guy carrying the responsibility [of scoring]. Normally that's for a third-, fourth- or fifth-year guy, but he's been able to step in and handle it."

It should be no surprise that McDonald has been the first-year to step into the void left by the graduation of Brad Tutschek, Ben Thomson's



HERE A BEAR, THERE A BEAR, EVERYWHERE A BEAR-BEAR McDonald (17) has the talent to play for a farm team.

AHL signing and Tim Krymusa's early season injury: according to both Kilgour and Thurston, McDonald has the talent to play in the AHL, and he's coming off a 92-point season for Tri-Cities.

"His skill level is top three or four in the league. He's a big guy too, so he protects the puck. I know how he plays and I know how he's played in the past, so it's helped out to be able to find him with the puck," says Kilgour, who has played on a line with McDonald for much of the season, and played with him for a stretch in the WHL.

"I've always been a skill player, and

[being surrounded by] skilled players here has helped make the transition easy. The coaching staff gives guys with skill the ability to create offensively," McDonald adds.

While the Phys Ed & Rec student has been a steady producer for the Golden Bears all season, it's been his prowess in the end of tight games that has made him especially valuable: he scored the winner in Friday's 3-2 win over Calgary and added the shoot-out-clinching tally the next night as the Bears completed the sweep of the Dinos and locked up home-ice advantage throughout the playoffs. The two goals give him four game-

winners on the season—second on the team to Kilgour's five.

"[It's important] to be in roles of adversity where they're out in the last minute and playing against the other team's top line. You're not always going to be successful—that's part of maturing—but you need to keep coming back and keep battling, and I think [Ian's] done that very well," Thurston says.

"There's a lot of responsibility for a first-year player, but I think we have a lot of them who are relied on more heavily than most [on other teams] to step in and play a bigger role," McDonald adds.

THE PEP RALLY

by Paul Owen

Bears Basketball

With a pair of victories over Lethbridge this weekend, the Golden Bears (15-7) wrapped up first place in the Central Division, and a bye for the first round of the playoffs. Five Albertans reached double-digits in scoring in Friday's 76-69 victory over the 'Horns (6-16). Saturday, five more Bears reached double figures, led by Richard Bates with 16. Bates leads the country in field-goal percentage, and shot 6-11 from the floor en route to a 90-76 Alberta win. The Bears will face the winner of the Saskatchewan/Calgary first-round matchup on 23-25 February.

Pandas Basketball

The Pronghorns (3-19) gave the Pandas everything they could handle in Friday's 68-66 Alberta victory, but couldn't keep it up on Saturday, losing 75-55. Trish Ariss and Kristin Larock hit game-sealing free throws for the Pandas (16-6) on Friday, while five Pandas scored double figures on Saturday. Combined with Calgary's sweep of Saskatchewan, the weekend gives the Pandas first place in the Central Division and, you guessed it, a first-round playoff bye. They will host the winner of the Huskies/Dinos tilt on 23-25 February.

Pandas Hockey

The Pandas (21-3-0) recovered from their first-ever shutout last weekend to beat up on UBC (8-15-1) this weekend, winning 7-1 on Friday and 5-0 Saturday. The twelve Alberta goals came from eight different players in a shocking twist for a team that has relied heavily on their top line for much of the season. Six of the top-ten conference scorers are Pandas.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & PUBLISHER

The *Gateway* is accepting applications for the position of Editor-in-Chief and Publisher for the 2007/2008 publishing year. The term runs from 1 May 2007 to 30 April 2008 and pays \$1859.40/mo*. Applicants must plan to be enrolled at the U of A in at least one class per semester for the 2006/2007 school year; must be available to work varying hours; must have computer and layout skills; and will preferably have been a *Gateway* editor, or possess equivalent leadership and editorial experience.** Applicants should submit a covering letter, resumé and a portfolio to **Gateway Business Manager (Steve Smith, 492-6669, biz@gateway.ualberta.ca) by noon on Friday, 2 March 2007**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

LINE EDITORS

The *Gateway* is accepting applications for the following line editor positions** for the 2007/2008 publishing year:

- MANAGING EDITOR
- SENIOR NEWS EDITOR
- DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR
- OPINION EDITOR
- SPORTS EDITOR
- ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
- PHOTO EDITOR
- DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR

All terms run from 1 May 2007 to 30 April 2008. The full-time paid portion of the job runs from mid-August to the end of April. Six issues of the *Gateway* will be produced over the summer months. All line editors will be expected to train on at least three of the six summer issues (unless granted leave by the hiring committee) for an honorarium of \$100/issue. In their full-time capacities, the salaries for each position are as follows: Managing and Senior News will receive \$1549.50* per month; all other line editors will receive \$1222.00* per month. Please note that candidates may apply for no more than two (2) positions, except by special dispensation of the Line Editor Selection Committee. Applicants should submit a covering letter, resumé and portfolio to **Gateway Business Manager (Steve Smith, 492-6669, biz@gateway.ualberta.ca) by noon on Friday, 9 March 2007**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

* Pay will be adjusted for CPI over the summer and may increase
** Complete descriptions (subject to change) are available at www.gateway.ualberta.ca/gs

ALBERTA HERITAGE FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

2007 media fellowship program

Application forms available at:

- Career and Placement Services
- Faculty of Engineering
- Faculty of Science
- Undergraduate Medical Education office
- AHFMR (780-423-5727)

Application deadline: March 16, 2007

The Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR) Media Fellowship Program gives one undergraduate or graduate university student at an Alberta university the chance to help a local media outlet communicate science and health news to the public. Preference will be given to students who have a strong biomedical science background.

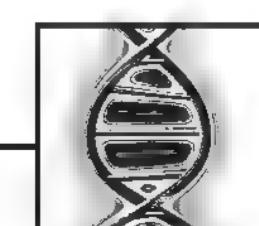
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Students must plan to continue their university studies in fall 2007 in any discipline.

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For more information or an application form check the AHFMR website at:

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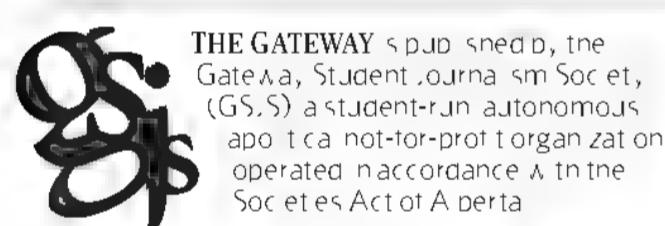
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colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers. Jmax PowerLook 1000 flatbed scanners and a Nikon Super Cool Scan opt. a film scanner. Adobe indesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images. Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files. All characters are direct imports to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles and weights of FENICE, Joanna, Kepler and Whitney. The Mantrap is the Gateway's sister paper and we owe her dear, though not in that way. The characters of course are Mario Kart, Double Dash and Pokemon.

contributors

Ross, the women, Von, Prusakowski, Lac, Desjarlais, Ramon Ostas, Oesa, Poorn, Mike Otto, Jaskaran Singh, Andrew Renfree, John Kmeic, Alyssa Parkin, Marla Koto, Jen Caraka, Rita Eamon McGrath, Joe Tedemann, Actor, Vargas, Kat Hitler, Patrik Ross, Jared McPhee, Knoeche, Matthea Barrett, Mike Robertson, Snaul Lyons, Chris Jung, Steve Garner, Norman Lau, Jeff Martin, John Gagnon, Marie-Ann Clark, Jean, Meng Li, Jason Nault, Jenny, Frogner, Lz, Darden, Tara Steg, Kimm Smith, Andrea Rurak, Joann Brown, Head, Pete Lee, Ashey, Scarritt

Reading abilities affected by parents' educations

STATS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The income-access gap was largely a result of factors other than finances, as 84 per cent of the gap between youth from families of different income brackets was related to the differences in academic performance in high school, parents' level of education and parental expectation. But even though financial constraints were a less important factor, Frenette said it was still an important indication.

"Looking more retrospectively, a student who grows up in a low-income family, because their parents don't have a whole lot of money, they might not have things like books around, they might not go to museums, they might not take in these type of cultural and learning activities, and as a result they may not perform so well academically in school," Frenette said. "Money may matter from an earlier point in life in the sense that it may limit opportunities for learning in the early years."

Frenette said that the results of the study suggest that the income divide in university participation is the outcome of factors that are present much earlier than when most youth begin to consider university.

"To understand why lower-income youth are less likely to go on, I think we need to go back to the early years and understand why they don't develop as well in the academic arena," Frenette said.

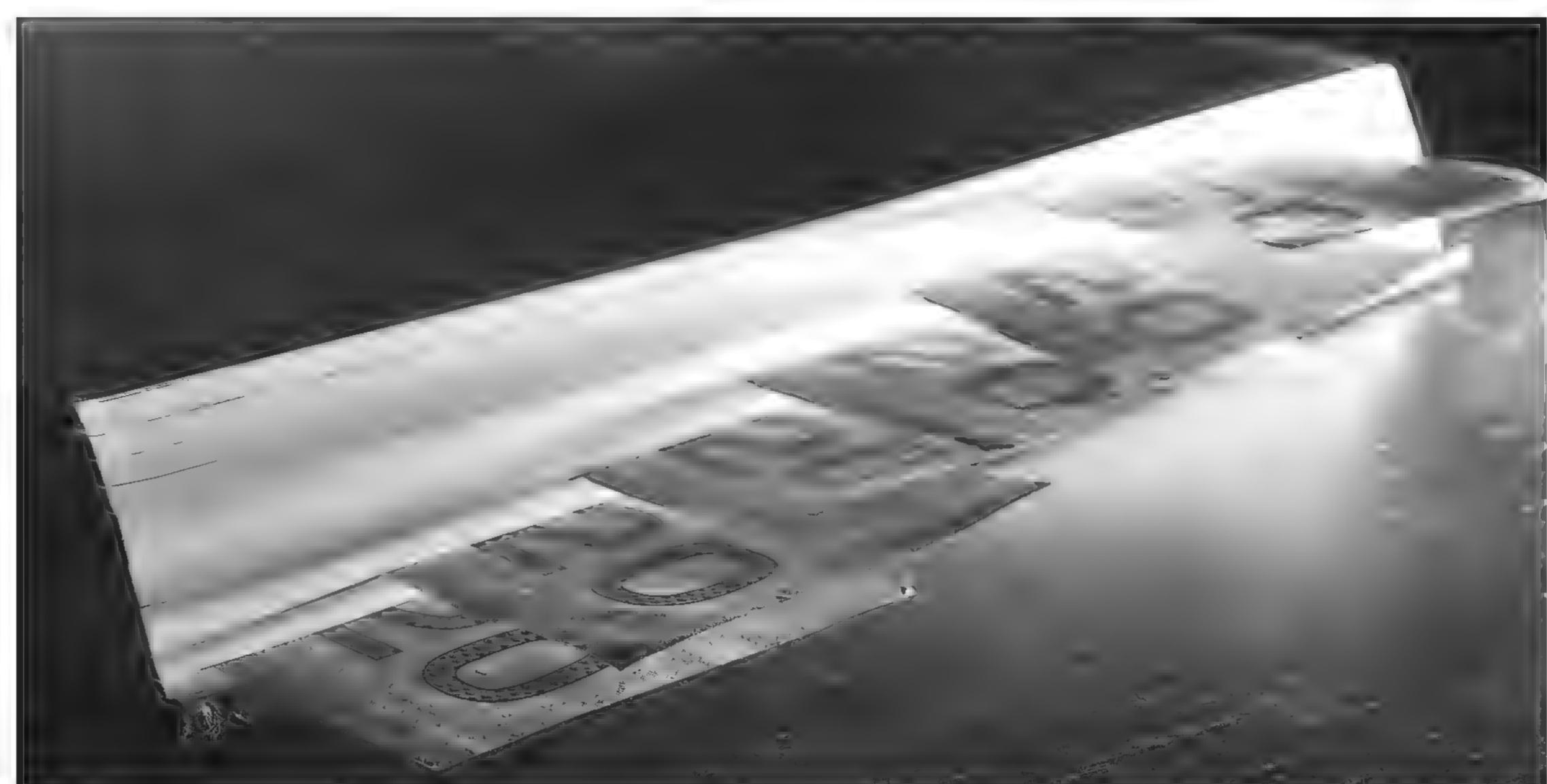


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: MIKE OTTO

THEY DON'T GROW ON TREES Statistics Canada study outlines correlation between income brackets and education.

A recent study conducted at the University of Alberta on the literacy of young children born into low-income families, whose parents have low levels of education, may have some answers.

Dr Linda Phillips, professor in the Department of Elementary Education at the U of A, and director of the Canadian Centre for Research on Literacy, collaborated on a longitudinal study of parents who don't complete high school,

and found that they're more likely to have children who struggle with reading and writing.

The study tested the reading and writing ability of the preschoolers over the course of four years to examine the benefits of a parent-child literacy intervention for families of low-educational and low-income backgrounds.

"This study points to the very, very crucial point of us concentrating on having our high-school students finish high school," she said, explaining that parents without a high-school education are unable to teach their children fundamental concepts before they enter

the public school system.

The study showed that each grade a parent complete in high school resulted in a significant improvement in their child's reading and writing abilities. She went on to say that intervening at the preschool age could help children before they fall behind.

"We can help these families and there is indeed no need for these children to wait until they go to school before somebody decides that they are children who are at risk of failure in school," Phillips said.

STREETERS

As you may be aware, tomorrow is Valentine's Day and with it comes the Gateway's annual Purity Test.

What's the most debauched thing you plan on doing over Reading Week?



Matthew Trilsbeck
Materials Engineering II



Connor MacDonald
Arts I



Brett Klein
Arts I



Bryan Cunningham
Science II

I'm going to get ridiculously loaded a lot.

I'm going to snowboard drunk in Whistler.

Mexican prostitutes.

I'll be spending a whole day naked and seeing how many dead animals I can accumulate.

Compiled and photographed by Steve Smith and Ross Prusakowski

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These guys might look like baseball players, but really they just want to write for *Gateway Sports*.

You see, I went to a Yankees/Orioles game and told them that I was looking for new writers. All of a sudden, Derek Jeter jumped Brady Anderson and started pummeling him in the head. Paul O'Neill joined in, and things got a little out of hand, so I decided I'd stick with students—they're much easier to deal with.

So if you've never been in a baseball brawl, stop by Sports meetings 5pm Tuesdays in Room 3-04 SUB.

GATEWAY SPORTS

Sticking it to *prima donna* athletes since 1910

New setter a chip off the old Brock

Bears volleyball captain Pehar admirably replacing all-Canadian Davidiuk

ANDREW RENFREE
Sports Staff

In the summer of 2004, Brock Pehar found himself faced with a tough decision. He had just finished his second season with the University of Waterloo Warriors but wasn't satisfied with the program or his future volleyball opportunities.

He considered transferring to the U of A, but knew he would have to sit on the bench for a full season because of CIS rules for transferring players. Pehar weighed his options: a guaranteed starting position for three years in Waterloo, or a year on the bench in Edmonton, followed by another season as a backup. Eventually the Ontario native decided playing for Alberta was a chance he couldn't pass up.

"That first year was very frustrating," Pehar says. "It was tough to come here knowing that I would give up a year [of volleyball]. Without that, my choice to leave probably would have been an easy decision, but it was a sacrifice that I had to make to get where I am now, and I'm glad I did it."

In the end, it was the opportunity to improve his game at the top men's volleyball program in the country that brought Pehar west.

"I decided to come here because I saw myself in a starting role [at Waterloo] for three more years and I didn't really see myself improving in that time," Pehar explains. "The coaches don't get much better than [Alberta head coach] Terry [Danyluk]; the players don't get much better than what we've had out here in the last couple of years, and that's a great environment that a player can put himself in for his development."

Two years after his decision, the move has paid off for the 6'5" setter. Now, Pehar is the Bears' captain and leads Canada West in assists per game, averaging 11.15 each match, and is ranked third in the conference in service aces per game with 0.47.

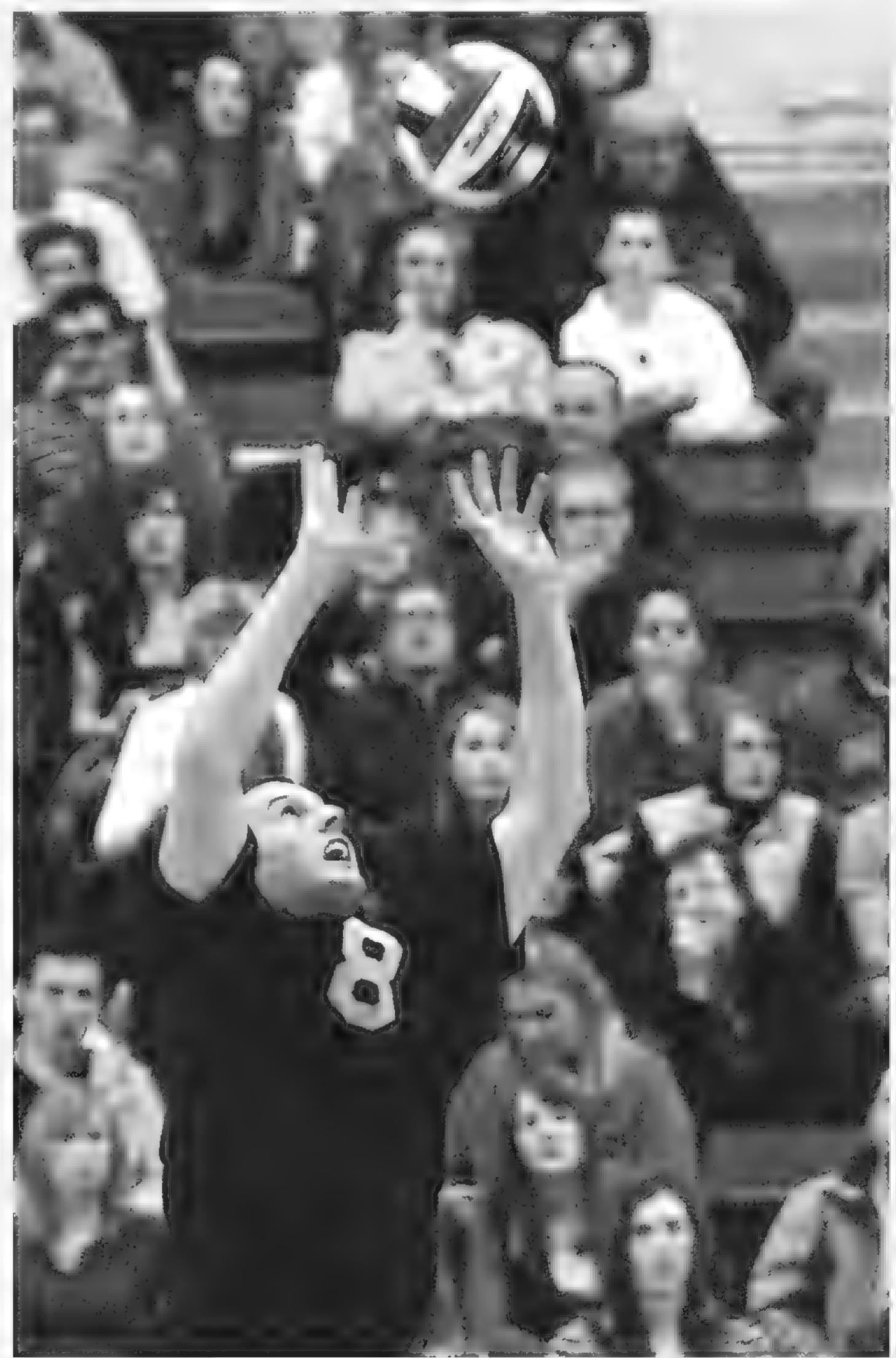
Many of his teammates and coaches saw leadership potential in Pehar last season, and Bears libero Justin Wong says Pehar was an obvious choice to lead the squad.

"Brock is an intense guy who leads by example and holds everyone on the team accountable. He puts his full heart and soul into every game,"



NOW THAT'S SCHOOL SPIRIT Members of the swim team came out in support of Pandas volleyball on Friday night.

ANDREW RURAK



FILE PHOTO:JOHANN BROWN

PEHAR PLAYS HARD Brock Pehar sacrificed a year of CIS play in order to come to Alberta from Waterloo, and spent another warming the bench.

who wasn't as talented."

"Both Brocks are great setters. The nice thing about Pehar is that he's still got a year of eligibility, so he still has time to refine his game even more," Wong adds, comparing the playing styles of each setter.

As it turns out, Pehar, the apprentice setter, honed his trade from one of the best journeymen in men's volleyball.

"[Davidiuk] taught me a lot of technical things, but more importantly, how to carry myself on the court—how to lead a team," Pehar says. "There's a lot more to setting than just volleying the ball to the right spot. It's about leading the squad and running an offence. He taught me some pretty valuable things about how to do that."

Trio of transfers lead Norse volleyball invasion

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor

For Bears volleyball setter Tore Hordvik, the hardest transition to Canada from his homeland has been the meals.

"[I miss] traditional Norwegian food—boiled potatoes and lamb," says the Bergen University transfer in his first-year of eligibility with the Golden Bears.

"And good bread," adds Eirik Thomassen, a left-side and libero also in his first year out of Bergen. "Europe has a lot better bread."

The pair have been friends and teammates throughout high school and university, making two previous trips to Edmonton in 2001 and 2003 as part of a touring volleyball team. So, it made sense for them to come to Alberta when looking for opportunities to travel abroad.

"Some of the guys on this [Bears] team, we played against five years ago, so it's good to have someone you know," Thomassen says.

Joining them on their most recent stay in Canada is Pandas volleyball setter Randi Bernsten, who got to know the guys when they were playing in Bergen. Having others from home around has eased the homesick feelings for all three players, and given them the ability to converse in their native tongue.

"I'm very glad that all three of us came together because it's a lot of new stuff and, in the beginning, to be able to go home and speak Norwegian [was very important]," Bernsten says.

"Even though we can speak English



MIKE OTTO

GREEN AND GOLD AND NORWEGIAN ALL OVER Thomassen (left), Bernsten (centre) and Hordvik love volleyball and Canada, but hate the food in HUB.

okay and understand people, it's not the same as speaking our own language," Thomassen adds.

The biggest athletic difference for all three has been the way their sports are now integrated into their schooling. In Norway, athletics are based on club sports and operate outside of school. That they're now playing for their academic institution eases the pressure placed on all three.

"It's much easier to combine sports and school," Bernsten says. "Back in

Bergen, I had the volleyball team and I had the school, and they were separate. If I had to travel with the team and missed something in school, it was my problem, but here, if I have to miss a class, they understand."

"All the guys are so excited about playing here. Back home, there are [35-year-old] guys who're like, 'Oh, I've played volleyball for 20 years, I'm just here because I have to be here,'" adds Hordvik of his club teams, which were comprised of former pros and

other players of all ages, instead of only university students like the teams in Canada.

Unlike many students going to school in foreign countries, the three Norwegians are all planning on earning full degrees from the U of A—Hordvik and Bernsten in Physical Education, and Thomassen in Arts or Business. Their long-term plans bode well for both teams.

None of the players have earned significant playing time yet, but their

off-court contributions have been noticeable according to both Pandas head coach Eisler and Bears bench boss Terry Danyluk. Both coaches point out that all three are very kind people who fit in with their teams right away.

Getting used to their new teammates hasn't been a problem, but there's still the matter of Hordvik's disappointment in the local fare.

"[Canadians] eat much more fast food," he says. "When you go through HUB, the smell is so bad."

www.thegatewayonline.ca

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After reading week, when you're still too hungover to come to school and grab a copy of the *Gateway*, check out our new website from the comfort of lying in the fetal position on your bedroom floor.

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Have you always wanted to see your ramblings published on newsprint? Twelve thousand pieces of newsprint? Well, friends, you're in luck—the *Gateway* has a circulation of 12 000, is totally printed on newsprint and wants to publish your writing.

This contest is open to any U of A student who can string a sentence together or snap a picture, and who isn't currently a *Gateway* volunteer. Winners will have their writing published, and we'll even throw in some fantastic prizes.

Entries will be judged on creativity and style. Submissions must be original, cannot have been published previously, and will not be considered if they are hateful in nature. Submit your entries to managing@gateway.ualberta.ca or bring them to 3-04 SUB by 4 March, 2007. Contestants may only enter once per category. Please include your name, program and year, and e-mail address. Unfortunately, entries will not be returned.

gateway literary contest

categories:

- 1 Short Fiction (under 1500 words)
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THE GATEWAY

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Cultural Connections Institute The Learning Exchange is looking for volunteers to teach English as a Second Language to

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The SexWord

compiled by Scott C Bourgeois

The Crossword runs semi-regularly with the answer available at www.gateway.ualberta.ca**Across**

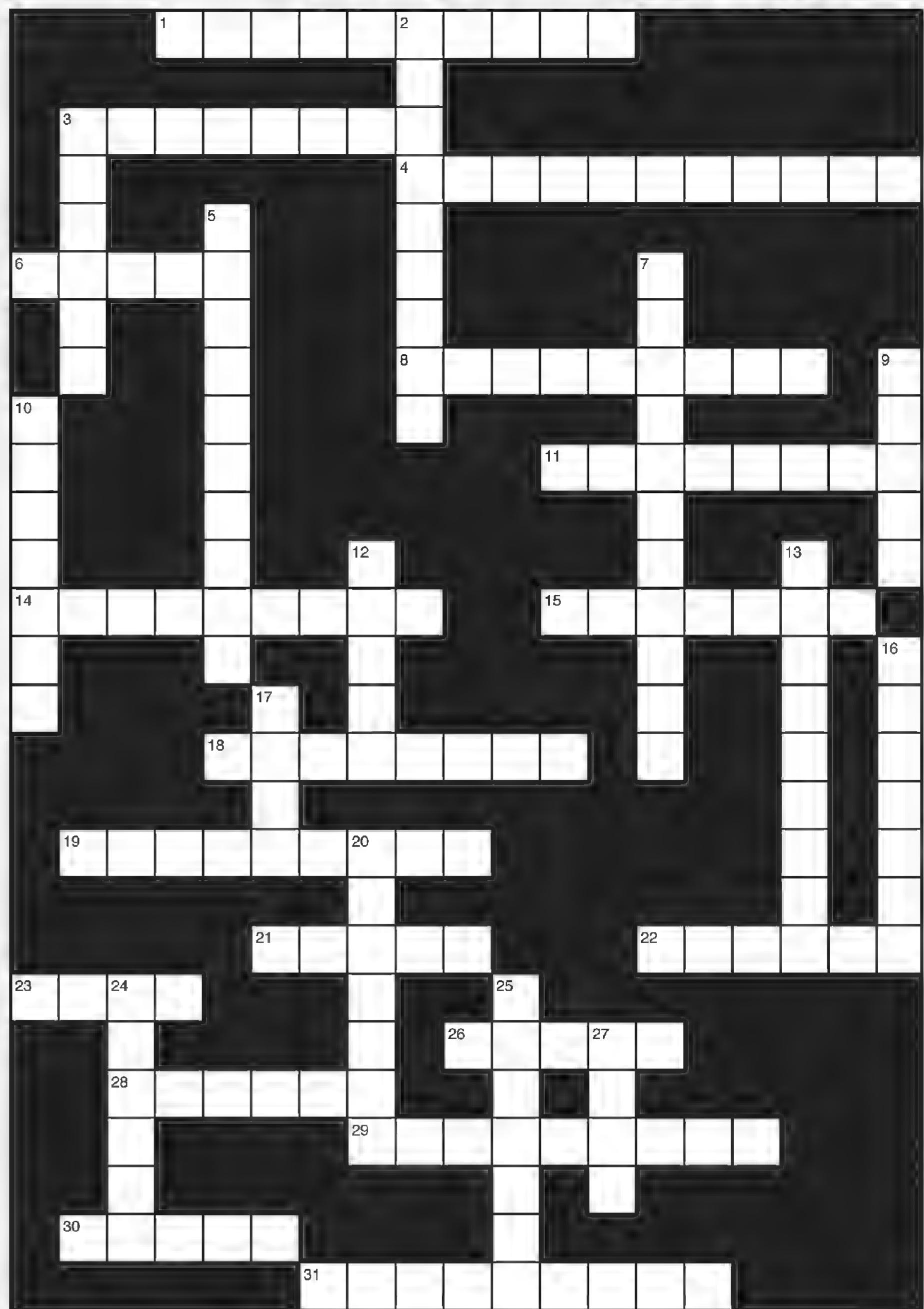
- Term for when a man lowers his testicles into his partner's mouth.
- Oral sex performed on a male.
- The act of performing anal sex with a man, while simultaneously giving him a hand-job.
- A cylindrical sex toy, often designed to look like a penis, used to penetrate the vagina or anus.
- A slippery substance used to make sex more enjoyable.
- The walnut shaped gland located in the rectum of a male, the stimulation of which can greatly enhance the pleasurable feeling of ejaculation.
- Oral sex performed upon the anus.
- A short sexual encounter.
- A medical condition characterized by a painful erection that won't go down.
- The climactic scene in a pornographic movie in which the man ejaculates, usually onto the face or belly of his partner.
- Term for a sexual practice that is non-traditional, or considered exotic.
- A person who enjoys watching people undress or having sex.
- Term for a sexually attractive middle-aged woman.
- Term for a woman who is more male in her expression and personality; used often in reference to a lesbian who identifies more with her masculine persona.
- Term for the psychic drive or energy associated with sexual desire.
- A painful, swollen feeling in the testicles can occur when a male has an erection for a

long period of time without ejaculation.

- Term for the perineum, the strip of flesh between the genitals and the anus on both men and women.
- Having sexual relations with more than one person.

Down

- A hole cut in a wall, used for anonymous sex between the people on either side.
- Term for when a man ejaculates on his partner's face.
- A female professional who is the dominant in an S&M relationship.
- The desire to have sex with a dead body.
- Term for the sound made when air is expelled forcibly from the vagina.
- A type of pornography where several men ejaculate on a woman's face.
- The external part of a woman's genitals, which includes the labia and the clitoris.
- Numerical term for when two partners engage in oral sex with each other at the same time.
- A technique of female sexual stimulation in which the index and middle finger are inserted into vagina while the pinkie finger is inserted into the anus.
- A sexual encounter with three or more people.
- Term for masturbating someone else; sometimes in conjunction with peanut butter.
- An underage girl, or sex with an underage girl, named after the Nabokov novel.
- The dark ring of skin around the nipple.
- A slang term for the disease gonorrhoea.

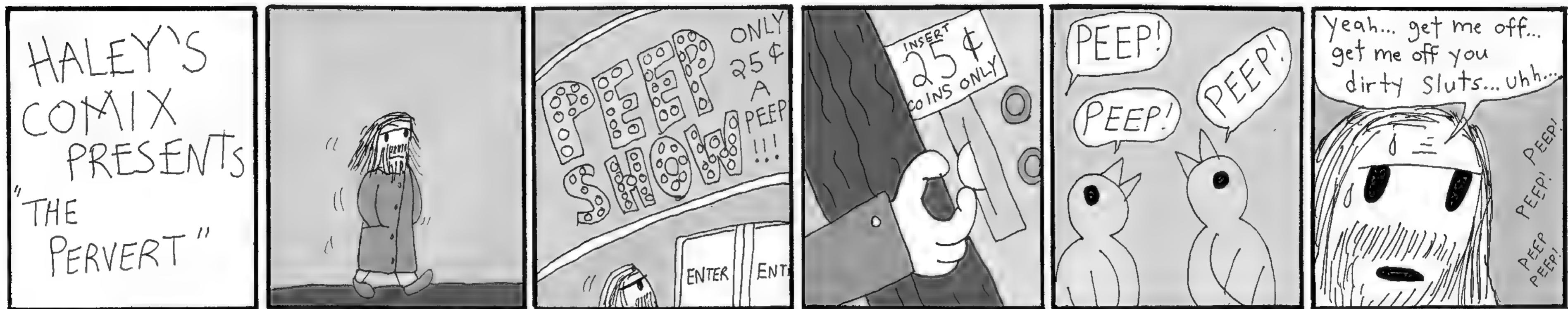
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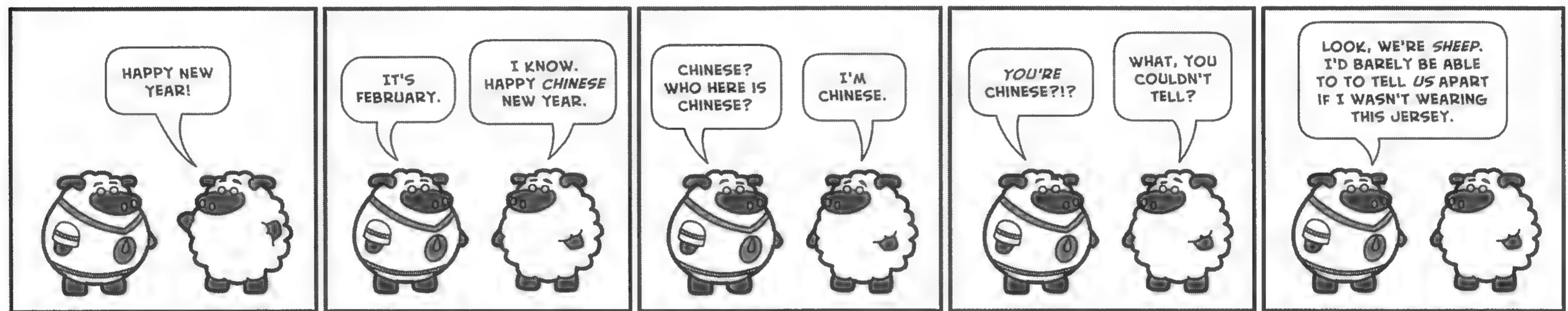
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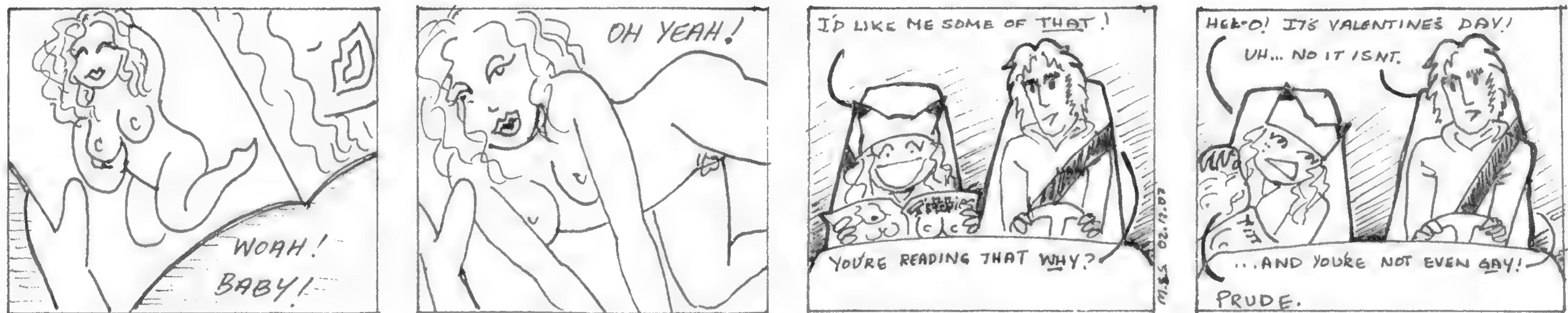
RENT-A-THUG by Jeff Martin



QUEER by Marie-Annick Jean



CIRC PALS by Morgan Smith



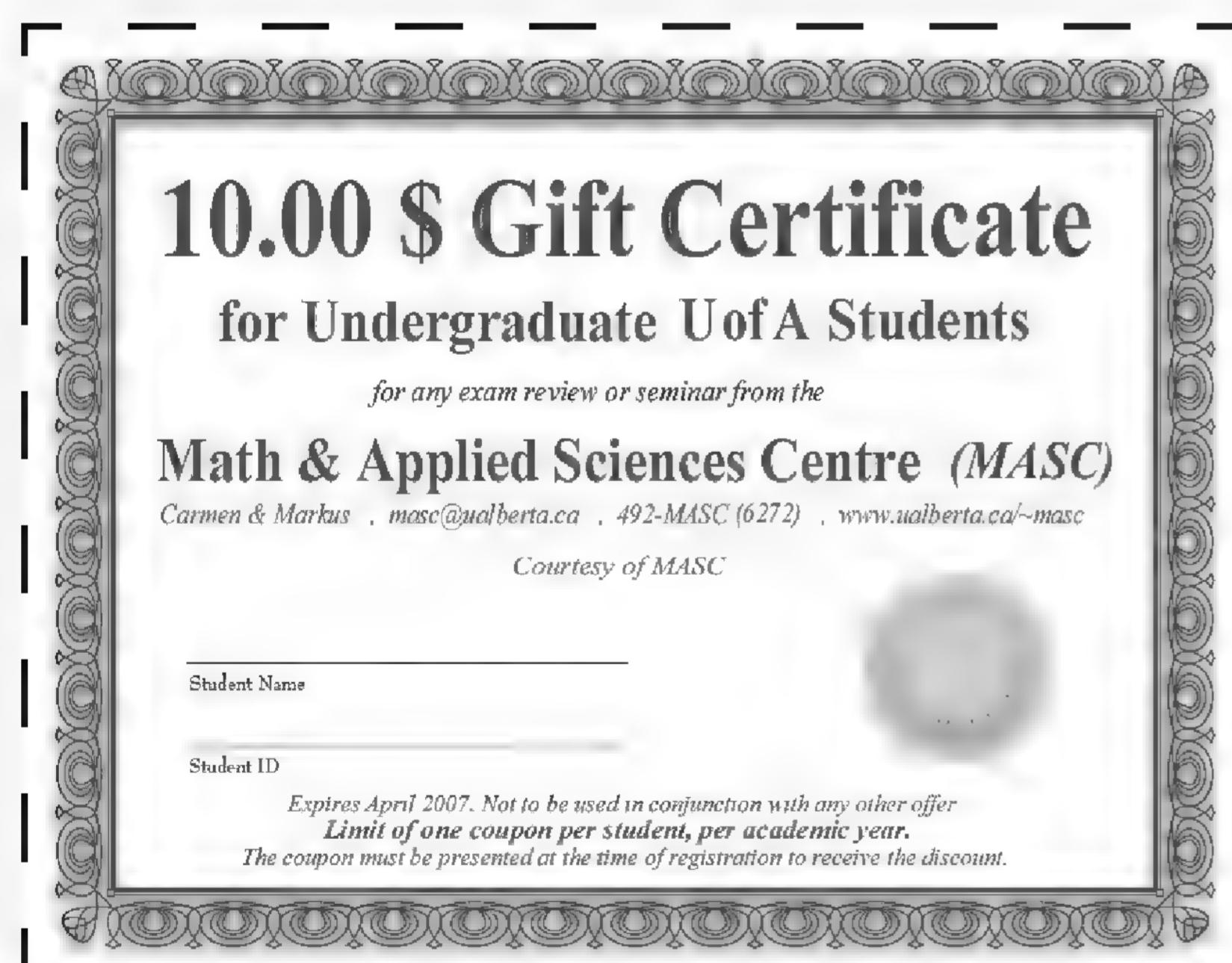
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Researcher urges people to wake up from chronic lethargy

OLESSA PLOKHII
News Staff

While conducting a study that looked at energy levels in a variety of people, Dr Karin Olson from the University of Alberta Faculty of Nursing came across a few alarming conclusions, the most important being that people need to take fatigue seriously.

Olson noticed that tiredness has stages that could progress to the detriment of one's health.

Because the symptoms of tiredness, fatigue and exhaustion differed so much, Olson thought these conditions could have underlying physiological factors. She said that common stressors, like work overload or personal problems, may seriously affect one's ability to cope with in daily life.

"As people progress from tiredness to [the more advanced stage of] fatigue, it's an indicator that their ability to manage those stressors is decreasing. So fatigue is the body's response to this failing adaptive mechanism. And once they hit exhaustion, that mechanism has fallen apart," she explained.

Olson went on to say that tiredness, fatigue and exhaustion can affect people in a variety of ways, depending on their occupation and lifestyle.

She explained that shift workers are extremely susceptible to progression from tiredness to fatigue, or fatigue to exhaustion, because of loss of sleep and the difficulty in establishing a regular routine. Olson also warned that people who suffer from depression are often affected by tiredness in relation to other biological complications already present due to their disease.



NOT ENOUGH ZZZ'S Study outlines the signs and dangers of constant fatigue.

"Depressed people's primary stressor is the way they see the world, and the mental anguish that they have to manage," she said.

The most important thing, Olson noted, is to understand that your stressors are unique to you, to learn what they are, and keep track of them. Olson explained that because young people's sleeping patterns are so unique, sometimes students turn to self-destructive avenues to balance life with rest.

"The real challenge amongst young people is that they choose things that are counterproductive. Coffee is a stimulant, and it tricks the body into thinking it's got more energy than it does," Olson said.

She went on to explain that a rested, happy person is better off in all facets of life than one who is tired, and that

the economy could even benefit from healthy employees due to a decrease in sick leaves and an increase in productivity.

"We know now that from a work-productivity point of view, people are most creative and most inventive if they give their brain a little bit of time off. Everyone should take some time every day to do something they really like," urged Olson, adding that this joy may even slow or upset progression between stages.

Due to these findings, Olson and her team think it's vital to open people's minds to the three stages of energy loss, and dispel some common myths about fatigue.

"You don't have to be sick to have fatigue. You can have fatigue just because you have a heavy load," she explained.

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Mike Otto

FELT LIKE GOING FOR A B&B

Sometime between 1 February and 8 February, someone tried to break into a fifth-floor office in Education North. Campus Security found the marks left by the bungling burglars on 9 February.

GONCH BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

At 11:21pm on 7 February, a transit rider near the bus loop flagged down constables on patrol and reported a man taking off his pants in the University LRT station. At the same time, Edmonton Transit security received reports of an intoxicated male asking for money. Officers found a man with an extensive criminal record that they had previously booted off campus. He was taken to a homeless shelter downtown.

THE THERMODYNAMICS OF OUCH

At 10:30pm on 8 February, a concerned student contacted Campus Security after seeing a man out in the cold near the east side of Henday Hall. Campus 5-0 arrived on the scene and discovered an intoxicated 50-year-old male. He had frostbitten feet and was taken to the hospital for treatment.

FOUND SKETCHY IN THE STACKS

Around 3pm on 9 February, a constable on a routine walk-through of Cameron Library spotted a male that had been previously kicked off campus by 5-0, in particular for loitering in the libraries. The man had no fixed address and a history of

violence and property offences. He was given yet another electrified eviction via LRT.

ALL FIRED UP OVER NOTHING

At 10:54pm on 9 February, Campus Security responded to a fire alarm in Education South. A number of witnesses reported seeing a man in scrubs and carrying a black duffle bag activated alarm stations throughout the building. The Edmonton Fire Department verified that there indeed was no cause for alarm.

Half an hour later, another alarm was received from the building; this time the absurd alarmist was apprehended by 5-0. He was intoxicated and found to have a previous criminal record; he claimed to have pulled the fire alarms because his car was stolen. Campus Security was less than impressed and handed him over to Edmonton Police.

WHOLE LOTTANOTHIN' HERE

Just after midnight on 9 February, a drunked-up man was seen lurking in the basement of the Education Car Park. He claimed to live downtown, but when constables investigated they found he had no keys, no money and nowhere to spend the night. He was taken to a homeless shelter downtown.

WHACK WHACK IN THE PUB PUB

A little after midnight on 10 February, a number of student residents reported a fight was taking place at a nearby bar on 116 Street. It was alleged weapons were involved, such as a bat and crowbar. Edmonton Police arrived on scene and found no students were involved or injured. They are currently still investigating.

GODDAMN THE PUSHER MAN

At 10:42pm on 10 February, a male injured his hand after he was shoved down a flight of stairs in SUB for refusing to give up his oversized novelty beer can. The petty pusher was last seen running west on 89 Avenue and is described as 5'9", 150lbs, wearing a blue T-shirt, blue jeans and a white necklace.

HOORAY FOR BEERFEST, I GUESS

At 11pm on 10 February, a number of partygoers were gathered in front of SUB, blocking traffic in the area. After refusing several polite requests to leave, 5-0 had to kick them out of the area, at which point the group migrated to the second floor of the Stadium car park. One of the males in the group became aggressive towards the officers and was placed under arrest. He then made a break for freedom, running south through the car park and jumping from the second level, landing near the parking kiosk. He was found and taken into custody a short distance away, and taken to hospital for treatment of minor injuries. Charges under the Code of Student Behaviour are pending.

WORLDY BEERS UNITE IN MY TUMMY

At 11:30pm on 10 February, Campus Security were called to Dinwoodie Lounge to deal with a man after event staff alleged he had been asked to leave and was being uncooperative. Constables warned him that if he continued to refuse, he would be removed. They were then forced to follow through on their promise when the man continued to physically resist them. The man had no university affiliation and was given a \$115 fine for refusing to leave a licensed venue.

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Female enrolment in engineering an uphill battle

LACINA DESJARLAIS
News Staff

Walk through ETLC and you will see a building full of hard-working students. A close look, however, will show that an overwhelming majority of the students are males. Every year the size of the faculty keeps increasing, but the declining percentage of female engineers has some faculty administrators worried.

Figures from the Faculty of Engineering showed that in 2000 approximately 22.2 per cent of the students enrolled in engineering were females, or about 674 women in a faculty of 3032 students. When compared to 2006, with women making up 20.1 per cent of undergraduates, it would seem that the female engineering population is shrinking. However, according to Ken Porteous, Assistant Dean of Engineering, this isn't so.

"[The year 2000] was when we had the largest relative per cent of women in engineering," Porteous said, adding that it is difficult to determine why the proportion of females is declining and also noting that in 2006 there were 3503 students enrolled in the Faculty of Engineering, of which 703 or 20.1 per cent were female.

"Why there aren't more women in engineering is a very tough question to answer," Porteous said. "There are some disciplines [in engineering] that seem to attract more women than others, for example, chemical, environmental and biomedical engineering. It could be because women enjoy work that sees a more immediate benefit to society."

Although the size of the faculty

may be growing and the number of women enrolled expanding along with it, engineering still seems to be a decidedly less popular option for women than other previously male-dominated faculties such as science, law, medicine or dentistry. Efforts by programs such as WISEST (Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Sciences and Technology) and Discover E don't seem able to counteract the problem, either.

These programs, and many others like them, are aimed at bringing increased numbers of females into the world of engineering by presenting them with mentorship and research opportunities. They are also trying to increase awareness with young women about all of the possibilities for a career that engineering can offer.

Despite these initiatives, the gender split remains; however, Janet Elliot, an engineering professor who focuses on thermodynamics at the U of A, said that the year-to-year decline in the percentage of female students in the faculty can be misleading.

"You really can't look at it over a one- or two- or three-year window ... it's generally over decades that it's increasing," she said. "The general trend is increasing numbers of women."

Elliot added that every generation sees a rise in the number of women in high-level teaching and professional positions in the field, which in turn can make potential female students more aware of the field as an option.

Mary-Ellen Compton, Director of the Discover E program at the University, says that the problem stems from limited awareness, as



KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

NO MORE GLASS CEILING Thermodynamics prof Janet Elliot says women are now encouraged to pursue engineering.

well as the negative perception of engineers that some women may have. She also said that women could be self-selecting themselves out of the program.

"If you go back a few years, there were a number of programs that were male-dominated, such as medicine, dentistry, law and engineering. I think it is taking a while for engineering to catch up," Compton said.

"Women need to know that they are every bit as capable as their male counterparts of doing the work [involved in getting an engineering degree]. I think girls tend to underestimate their abilities in math and science, even though they are every bit as capable in those areas, whether

it's because of perception or old stereotypes," she added.

Elliot agreed that social pressures can prevent women from choosing a career in engineering, but that within the faculty, there are few obstacles.

"Math and science are gender neutral. You either like solving problems with [them,] or you don't," she said. "[In the faculty] I've never reached a barrier or had a problem just because I was a female."

First-year engineering student Gillian Allen says that her choice to go into engineering was all her own, not having any relatives in engineering.

"I went into engineering because the faculty was offering scholarships," Allen said. "The fact that I would

be done in four years and out there making money already was attractive. It's just that I'm pretty much guaranteed a job right now because engineers are in high demand, but [engineering] was never like a dream of mine."

She also feels that for some women the male-female dynamic may be a bit hard to handle at times and could deter females from the program.

"I was sitting and looking at the people in class the other day and there were like five guys for every one girl in the class, so that's kinda brutal because the guys are all dorks. [It doesn't get intimidating for me] but I can see how it might be for some of the other girls," Allen said with a laugh.

With files from Scott Lilwall

GFC COMMITTEES: STUDENTS NEEDED

The terms of office for students serving on General Faculties Council (GFC) Standing Committees and Appeal Boards and committees to which GFC elects members will expire on April 30, 2007. Undergraduate and graduate students (except as noted) are encouraged to apply now to serve on any of the following committees for terms of office beginning May 1, 2007, and ending April 30, 2008. (Some students currently serving on these committees may be seeking re-election to serve additional terms.)

Committee	Student Vacancies	Meeting Times
ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (APC): GFC's senior committee dealing with academic, financial and planning issues	ONE undergraduate & ONE graduate	2:00 pm/2nd & 4th Wednesdays
ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE (ASC): GFC committee dealing with admissions, academic standing, transfer and examination policies and other related issues	ONE undergraduate	9:00 am/3rd Thursday
CAMPUS LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE (CLRC): Reviews Code of Student Behaviour, Code of Applicant Behaviour and Residence Community Standards	TWO STUDENTS (undergraduate and/or graduate)	9:30 am/4th Thursday
COMMITTEE ON THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT (CLE): Promotes an optimal learning environment in alignment with guiding documents of the University of Alberta	ONE undergraduate & ONE graduate	2:00 pm/1st Wednesday
FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (FDC): Recommends on planning and use of facilities, proposed buildings and parking and transportation facilities	ONE undergraduate	9:00 am/3rd Friday
UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE (UASC): Approves new awards for undergraduate students including selection and eligibility criteria	TWO undergraduates	2:00 pm/2nd Tuesday in October, January, March and June
UNIVERSITY TEACHING AWARDS COMMITTEE (UTAC): Adjudicates the Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, the William Hardy Alexander Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, and the Teaching Unit Award	TWO undergraduates & ONE graduate	Normally three times a year (October, March and May)
ACADEMIC APPEALS COMMITTEE (AAC) / UNIVERSITY APPEAL BOARD (UAB): AAC hears and decides appeals regarding academic standing. UAB hears and decides appeals regarding disciplinary decisions of the Discipline Officer and/or Dean as made under the Code of Student Behaviour	AAC: THREE undergraduates & TWO graduates UAB: NINE undergraduates & FOUR graduates	Hearings are normally scheduled from 4:30 pm onward and last from 3-5 hours. Student members normally participate in 1-3 hearings in a calendar year, therefore some evening flexibility over the calendar year is needed (including summer months). Training is provided.
COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS (COSA): The aim of the Council is the betterment of the quality of student life at the University of Alberta	ONE undergraduate & ONE graduate	Afternoons/normally 3rd Monday (September to March)

Application forms and committee information are available on the University Governance website: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/secretariat/>, or in Room 2-5 University Hall. Applications should be completed and returned to the University Governance by **Wednesday, March 7, 2007**. For information regarding committee membership and terms of reference, students are invited to contact: Ms Vanessa Ogilvy, Secretary to the GFC Nominating Committee (NC), at 492-4715, or by e-mail: vanessa.ogilvy@ualberta.ca.

NOTE: There is ONE STUDENT VACANCY on the GFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE for an undergraduate student who is a GFC member. Expressions of interest should be directed to Mr. Garry Bodnar, (garry.bodnar@ualberta.ca) Secretary to the GFC Replenishment Committee, University Governance.

STUDENT AWARDS

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Deadline for receipt of applications in the Students Awards Office is **01 March 2007**.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA SCHOLARSHIPS, PLEASE VISIT www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards



Blogging linked to loneliness

JASKARAN SINGH
News Writer

In the late '70s, when Sting and the Police penned the pop hit "Message in a Bottle," the Internet was in its embryonic stages. Calls for attention, such as messages scrawled in notes, journals and sheets of paper stuffed in ocean-bound containers were possible outlets for angst and alienation.

But, with the evolution of media and the Internet, public expressions of melancholy have become commonplace among blogs and online social networks, such as Facebook, MySpace and Nexopia. Such is the research of Dr Michael Keren, professor at the University of Calgary and Canadian Research Chair in Communication, Culture and Civil Society. His latest book, *Blogsphere: The New Political Arena*, focuses on the political freedom given by such outlets, and also discusses the under-use of such powerful tool.

According to Keren, blogging adds a whole new dimension to the political and social arena.

"Blogging implies a huge emancipation in that, for the first time in history, the opportunity to present our private lives in the public domain isn't confined to people who have achieved prominence ... but to everybody with access to a computer," he said.

Keren believes that the appeal of

blogging is that it gives anyone a voice and a niche in a larger community. It puts anyone's opinion on the center stage and it allows many to get their opinions out to a large audience with anonymity. Bloggers range from struggling local bands with MySpace pages, to lonely, aged widowers uploading videos on YouTube.

"There is also a sense of rebellion in that blogging is seen as providing an arena of public discourse free from the constraints attributed to the mainstream media."

DR MICHAEL KEREN,
UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Blog entries can range from frivolous to dire and touching. One example culled by Keren was a blog written by a young girl in Iran, expressing her desire for Barbie Dolls, which were restricted under the country's regime.

"Such an expression of a private desire is undoubtedly a matter of global political concern. When her scream for freedom remains in the dark, it is

definitely a bad thing," he said. Keren also proposes that another possible appeal of becoming a blogger is in its counterculture and rebellious nature.

"There is also a sense of rebellion in that blogging is seen as providing an arena of public discourse free from the constraints attributed to the mainstream media," Keren continued.

He said that blogging provides the opportunity to voice political opinions typically not represented by major media sources, which he sees as an underused option. Blogging, although a potentially powerful tool, doesn't leave the Internet.

"It stems from the fact that blogging remains confined to cyberspace—this is where bloggers seem not to take advantage of their liberation," Keren said.

The act of blogging liberates many and whether the content of a blog is personal, or intended for millions around the globe it's a way of sending an "SOS to the world."

"We are all living in a world in which the individual may be seen as more liberated than ever, yet we are also aware of the gap between that liberation and the little control we seem to have over the political, economic and other systems surrounding us," Keren concluded.

Ralph Klein spends an afternoon lecturing U of A business students

OLESSA PLOKHII
News Staff

Former premier Ralph Klein addressed a University of Alberta business class last week, discussing Alberta's hot economy and his perpetual faith in the next generation of business students to propel commerce in the booming province.

Just before heading to the Business Economics 414 class, Klein met with current Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach and discussed the economic outlook in the province, which he doesn't expect will be declining any time soon.

"When I look at all the vehicles in the world, I don't see a let-up in the demand for oil and gas," Klein said, noting that Americans are urging Alberta to more than double the current output of the oil sands in Fort McMurray from 2 million to 5 million barrels per day.

Klein used this example to voice concern over the growing problem of Alberta's youth dropping out of school to pursue lucrative careers working on oil rigs.

"There's no doubt about high salaries in the oil-sand sectors attracting people. But the [provincial] department of education, I hope, will be stressing the long term need for a good education," he said.

After admitting that the last person in the world who should be commenting on restrictions on oil and gas development is a politician, he stressed that business students play a pivotal role in the future generation of commerce. According to Klein, government ought to play the role of opening doors and creating opportunities for business.

"We open the door, you [students] go in there and do business because you know how to do business. Business should diversify, while government



WEIYANG LIU
FROM PREMIER TO PROF Klein made a brief appearance lecturing on campus.

should provide the encouragement and the regulatory regimes to allow businesses to diversify," he explained.

During the speech, however, Klein also was adamant about the importance of limited government interference in the market, especially when it comes to regulating foreign investments.

"It's always been my attitude that we let the market prevail. The government can monitor the situation [of too much foreign invest-

ment in domestic interests], but to deliberately intervene, to prevent oil going south, is wrong because it skews the market," he said.

"Basically what we do is we promote postsecondary education, at the trade level, engineering level [and] commerce level. We're involved in harmonizing regulations to make it easier for skilled people to come to this country, and to fund institutions to provide those spaces. Aside from that, we ought to stay out," Klein said.

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New student group working to appeal CRO ruling

Students argue they never declared themselves the organizers of the No side and that the the penalty is unwarranted. However, the CRO's written ruling stated that Steph Shantz, a member of the SAKCoke group, had declared her intent to run the No campaign

COKE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In her ruling, Woynorowski found that the materials, which comprised of posters suggesting that the Coca-Cola Company violated the human rights of workers in Colombia and was complicit in the murder of several union workers in the area, constituted pre-campaigning in violation of SU bylaws. The posters also included links to websites run by both local and international anti-Coke groups.

According to the written ruling, Woynorowski contacted SAKCoke on several occasions and asked them to take down the materials, but the organization refused to do so.

Election regulations prohibit individuals in support of either side of a question from putting up materials to sway voters before the official campaign period begins. Woynorowski fined the No campaign \$900, which comes out to 90 per cent of their entire election budget, and prohibited the No side from posting any materials on campus in support of their campaign. Also noted in the original complaint was that a member of SAKCoke was handing unsolicited

material to students on campus, an allegation that Woynorowski could not find evidence for and therefore didn't include in the ruling.

But while the verdict levied a heavy fine against the campaign, Woynorowski said that it was in line with decisions with previous years.

"We're arguing that this isn't pre-campaign material; it doesn't have any connection to the campaign whatsoever."

**COSANNA PRESTON,
ANTI-COKE COALITION MEMBER**

"The point of the [ruling] is to match the advantage with that the campaign has received by pre-campaigning. We've had this happen in the past, like last year when the [Physical Education Complex campaign] were fined for what someone posted on WebCT.

The message only reached six people, but they were fined \$200," she said, pointing out that it's likely many more students had seen the anti-Coca-Cola materials.

However, Alejandro Pachon, a member of La Chiva, a group on campus that tries to raise awareness for Colombian social issues and works closely with SAKCoke, argued that the situations weren't the same.

"[The CRO] says that there is a precedent ... directly related with the PAC plebiscite. But, different from the PAC group, we have never asked for a plebiscite," he said.

Unlike the PAC plebiscite, the SU drafted and approved the wording the Coke plebiscite question.

Furthermore, Pachon argued that SAKCoke's materials weren't part of a No campaign, but was simply continuing the efforts to raise awareness of their cause as they had been before plebiscite question was finalized—and attempting to influence voters.

But the CRO's ruling also stated that Steph Shantz of SAKCoke showed an intention to run the No campaign after the plebiscite question was finalized.

However, Angelica Quejada, another member of La Chiva, pointed out that no one had registered to head the official campaign to oppose the plebiscite.

"We're not related to the campaign at all. Our objective is to make people aware of problems in Colombia. We cannot just stop talking about Colombian issues because there is a [campaign]. It's kind of strange, as there really is no 'No side,'" Quejada said.

That, however, might change. After meeting Monday evening, a group of student activists have decided to appeal the decision made by Woynorowski and take it to the SU's Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement (DIE) Board for a final decision on the matter. Cosanna Preston, one of the members of the anti-Coke coalition (and, in the interest of full disclosure, a former Gateway news editor) said that they disagreed with a few of the points in the CRO's ruling.

"We're arguing that this isn't pre-campaign material; it doesn't have any connection to the campaign whatsoever," Preston said. "It was to do with an event that happened in the end of January beginning of

February, which was decided to go ahead with before the plebiscite was ever agreed on."

She also echoed Quejada's comments that the No campaign didn't exist, and therefore shouldn't be possible to fine. As well, she raised concern that the restrictions around pre-campaigning might stifle protest about issues unrelated to the plebiscite question.

She argued that the Yes side of the campaign was guilty of pre-campaigning as well, with the number of signs and vending machines Coca-Cola has around campus. Penalizing just the No side, according to Preston, is not fair.

While they haven't decided on whether the group will take the reins of the No campaign, Preston did say that it was a possibility.

"I want to stress that we aren't the No campaign right now, it is just a consideration. We'll get the [DIE Board] decision on Wednesday evening, which would still give us time to register if we wish," she said.

The Gateway will be posting information on the results of the DIE board meeting as soon as it becomes available at: www.gateway.ualberta.ca

FACT:

Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Rastafarianism and Seventh-Day Adventist are among the world's religions that prohibit, restrict or discourage the eating of shellfish in their holy texts and teachings.

FACT:

We at *Gateway* news don't know why treacherous crustaceans are feared the world over, but we aren't taking any chances. Lobster, mollusks and yes, even crawdads, are not welcome in news meetings, held on 3pm on Fridays in 3-04 SUB, and will be thrown out on sight.

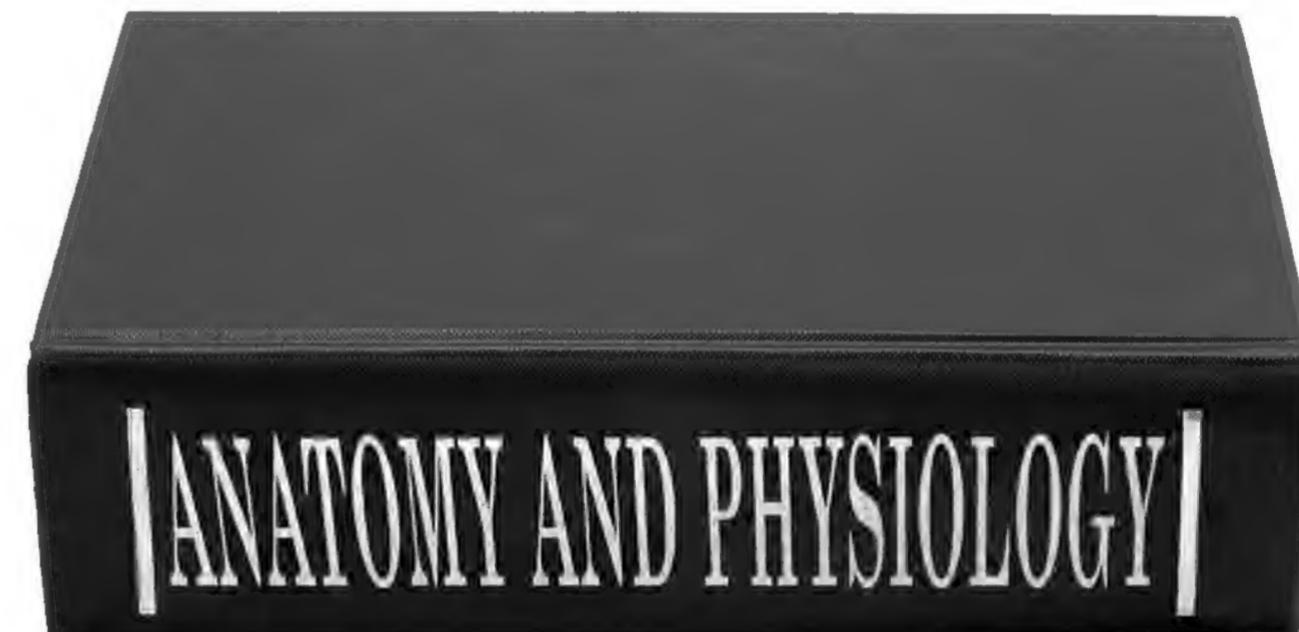


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GATEWAY NEWS

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Demonstrating on Parliament Hill Students and faculty from the University of Ottawa, Carleton University, Queen's University and other members of the public converged at the national landmark the afternoon of 7 February.

CANADIAN STUDENTS UNITE

Across the country, university students gathered last Wednesday to mark the Canadian Federation of Students National Day of Action. From coast-to-coast, students held demonstrations to demand an affordable postsecondary system.

MONTRÉAL STUDENTS DEMAND ACCESSIBLE EDUCATION

About 1000 students from Montréal universities and colleges braved freezing temperatures to oppose the end of the Québec tuition freeze and to demand a reduction in all tuition and ancillary fees.

During the demonstration in front of Québec Premier Jean Charest's Montréal office, students also called for a massive reinvestment in education from the Québec and federal government, while a large contingent of the students demanded free education.

Chanting "education is a right" and "reduce all fees," students from McGill University, Concordia University, l'Université du Québec à Montréal, Dawson College, CEGEP Rosemont, CEGEP de Vieux de Montréal and CEGEP Ahuntsic converged outside Charest's office.

Max Silverman, Student Society of McGill University (SSMU) Vice-President (External Affairs), explained that the demonstration was part of a wider student mobilization for the upcoming Québec election and the expected end of the tuition fee freeze should the Liberals be re-elected. He added that the SSMU believes in free and accessible education, and the fight to keep the freeze is the first stage in that struggle.

"SSMU's position is that education is a right and we ultimately believe in the elimination of all financial barriers to education ... and certainly that's what we're going to keep advocating for, but that starts with stopping Jean Charest's plan to defreeze tuition," he said.

Jesse Rosenfeld
CUP Québec Bureau Chief

ATLANTIC CAMPUSES TAKE PART IN NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION

SACKVILLE, NB (CUP)—Last Wednesday morning, Ezra Edelstein was on the streets of Halifax watching approximately 100 students from a half-dozen university campuses march past him on their way to the provincial legislature.

Edelstein is the President of the Dalhousie Students' Union—the largest students' union in the Maritime provinces that didn't take part in the Canadian Federation of Students' (CFS) National Day of Action. The SU at Dalhousie isn't a member of the CFS.

However, the Day of Action was observed by other Atlantic institutions. Memorial University of Newfoundland held rallies, as did the University of Prince Edward Island. And Mount Allison University, while affiliated with neither CFS or their rival group, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA), also took part in the Day of Action. The University of New Brunswick undergraduate Students' Union is CASA-affiliated and so also didn't take part, but the graduate SU, which is a CFS member, held events on campus.

But while their message was directed at all levels of government, not all political leaders are responding the way the CFS might have hoped.

Dennis Cochrane, Deputy Minister of Education in Nova Scotia, said that while the provincial government is taking postsecondary education seriously, tuition freezes or reductions aren't in the cards just yet.

Instead, he said, his government is focusing now on slowing growth, noting the recently imposed 3.9 per cent annual growth cap placed on tuition fees.

However, Cochrane said he supports the ideas behind the Day of Action.

"We certainly want the federal government's attention," he said.

William Wolfe-Wylie
CUP Atlantic Bureau Chief

HEADS OF QUÉBEC UNIVERSITIES CALL FOR HIGHER TUITION FEES

MONTRÉAL (CUP)—As students called for lower tuition fees in demonstrations across Canada, the heads of the four Québec medical universities called for the provincial tuition freeze to be lifted.

McGill University Principal Heather Munroe-Blum joined heads of l'Université Laval, l'Université de Sherbrooke, and l'Université de Montréal in calling for a governmental reinvestment in education and—in unison for the first time—an end to the Québec tuition freeze.

L'Université Laval rector Luc Vinet stressed that, while they hadn't agreed on specifics, all four believed that the

13-year freeze must be lifted.

"We should move in steps," Vinet said. "We all agree on the unfreezing. As to how, and to what level—it is to be further discussed."

*Kelly Ebbels
The McGill Daily*

FREE UNIVERSITY TUITION COMES WITH A PRICE: THINK TANK

WATERLOO, Ontario (CUP)—McMaster University student Meena Bhardwaj said she's looking for a part-time job to help her pay for school next year. Her parents were able to cover the bulk of her tuition and residence fees this past year, but Bhardwaj knows the cost of a university education in Ontario is climbing. And like the thousands of students that took part in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) National Day of Action on 7 February, Bhardwaj isn't happy.

"I really don't see where the money is going," she said, explaining that she paid five per cent more for her tuition this year than she would have in 2005/06.

"It's a public system, but they're making it very hard for the average person to go to university. Only middle class students will be able to afford it," she added.

As tuition fees jumped at universities in Ontario this past year, so has student protest. Back in October 2006, the CFS staged a mock funeral outside of Queen's Park in Toronto to "mourn the death of affordable postsecondary education." And last month, students at the York, Toronto and Laurentian university campuses camped out in the sub-zero winter temperatures in a campaign they dubbed "Freeze for the Fees."

According to the 2005 *Global Higher Education Report*, a study released by the Educational Policy Institute, when compared to other postsecondary school systems in Europe, the United States, Japan, and Australia, the evidence suggests Canada is among the more expensive places to get an education.

While Canada performed poorly in the affordability rankings, the country did well in factors of accessibility, such as participation rate and educational equity. The flip side of higher tuition fees, according to Usher, is being able to create room for more students.

Adrian Ma
CUP Ontario Bureau Chief



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january featured STUDENT GROUP

UofA Phi Delta Theta Fraternity

www.PhiDeltaTheta.ca
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Office: 10942-87 Ave, Edmonton, AB
T6G 0X3



Year Established: 12/09/1930

Membership: 15

Purpose of the Group:

Friendship, Sound Learning, and Moral Rectitude; we benefit our members as well as the community. We provide funding for Lou Gehrig's disease, Youth Emergency Shelter, and Youth CO-OP. We provide academic, personal, and career support for our members.

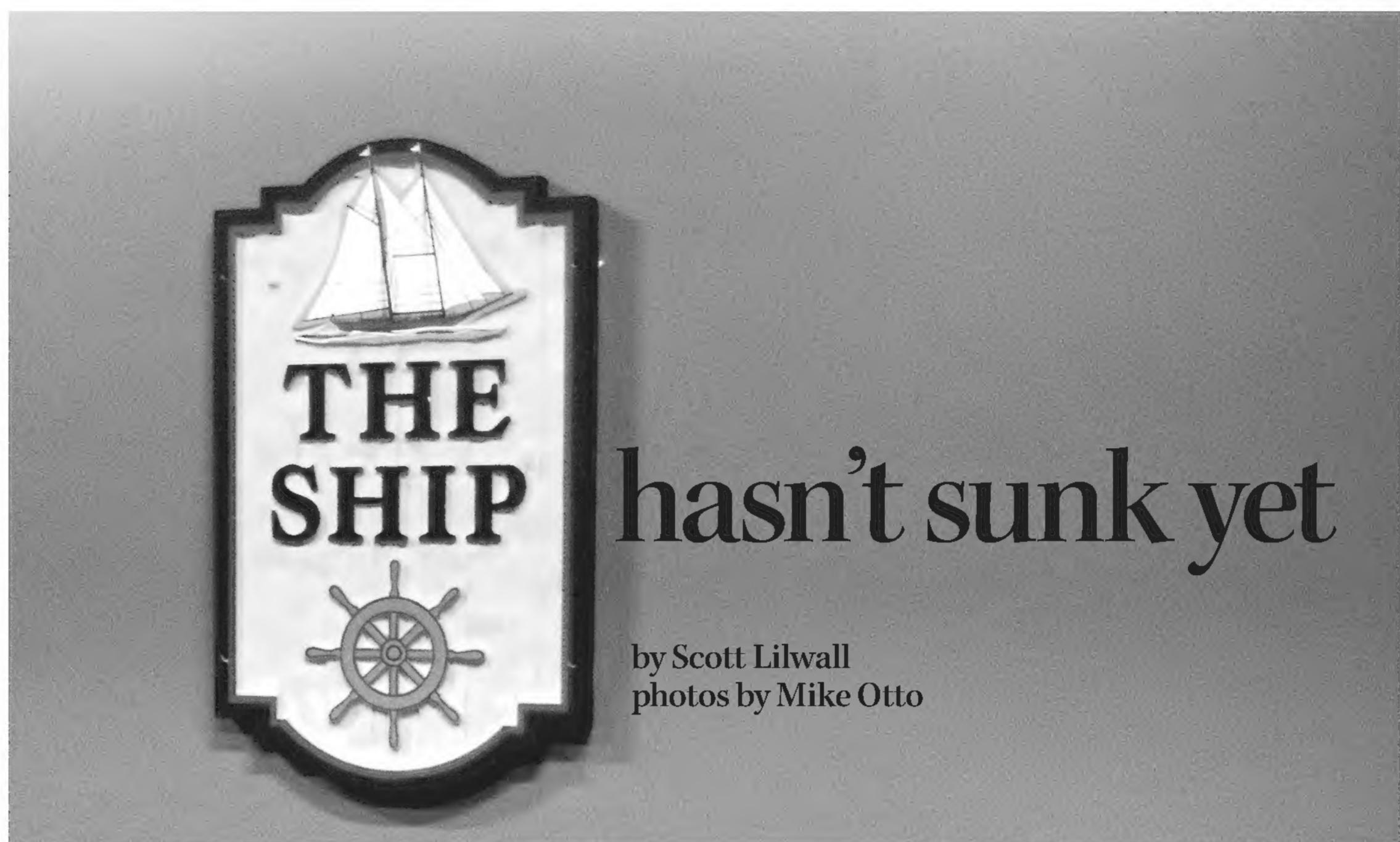
Phi Delta Theta, in last semester alone, helped raise funds for CNIB, & ABC Headstart for Literature with Delta Gamma and Kappa Alpha Theta, wrapped gifts at Millwoods Town Center in support of the Youth Emergency Shelter just before Christmas and raised funds for ALS through BBQs. We also collected donations for the Old Strathcona Youth Society. We have a large campus fundraiser in spring in support for the Youth Society as well as more activities for charity.



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While this nearly-legendary bar in Lister Hall might have been dry-docked years ago, its memory has remained stark in the minds of those that visited it. Now, with a new renovation and a new purpose, wind has once again filled the sails of the Ship.

The opening of a new study lounge in Lister Hall hopes to rekindle new interest in a space that has become a major part of the residence's history.

"KISS actually played their first Canadian concert over there," said Michael Janz, President of the Lister Hall Students' Association (LHSA), pointing to the Ship's dance floor where students were crowded around a cake with an anchor painted on it in grey icing.

"If I remember correctly, they ended the concert half an hour early, and Lister residents gave them very poor reviews," he added with a laugh.

Being host to the osculating glam-rockers from New York may be just one of the many salty stories that make up the history of the Ship, Lister's once-infamous bar, but it certainly does seem to be one of the favourites. In fact, that tidbit was told at least three times on Friday, which saw the grand reopening of the newly renovated area as a lounge, designed to provide a place for students to gather and unwind from the rigors of classes and dorm life. While the calm game of billiards near the door and the quiet studying in the corner might seem a stark contrast to the rowdy, dingy bar that occupied the space years ago, those with fond memories of the old Ship see them as similar in one important respect: both give Listerites a place to gather together and meet people within the building.

To hear some tell it, the history of Lister can't be told without mentioning the Ship. Part of Lister Hall since the residence's opening in 1963, the bar was built during a time when in-house clubs and bars were common for residences. In keeping with the nautical theme of Lister Hall, the establishment was dubbed the Ship, and its interior was designed to resemble the inside of a sea-faring vessel, complete with wooden tables that invited patrons to carve their marks into while enjoying a pint.

"We've got the Marina [Lister's cafeteria] and the Lighthouse [the resident

newsletter], and so we've got the Ship," explained Janelle Morin, LHSA Vice-President (Public Relations). "I have no idea why, really. We're about as far from water as you can get."

The Ship soon became a staple of life in Lister Hall. Thursdays, the first night that the establishment would sell liquor, would see especially large crowds of Lister students eager to get an early start on the weekend. Thursdays were often themed, encouraging students to dress up in costumes ranging from pirate regalia to Greek togas. Red Light, Green Light nights were especially popular, with every student displaying a piece of coloured paper to clearly advertise their romantic (or sexual) availability.

"You'd come in on Thursday afternoon and the lineup of people would be from the doors of the Ship out to the mailboxes. There would be a few hundred people all lined up, because if you didn't get in early, you wouldn't get in," said Miki Abe, who remembers the Ship from her first year living in residence. "It was the one thing that everybody looked forward to over the whole week: it's Thursday night, time to go to the Ship."

Jordan Blatz, who was president of the LHSA at the time of the establishment's closing, also has vivid memories of people rushing down to line up for their chance to get into the Ship.

"The picture I have in my head is, you know in the movie the *Shining*, when [the main character] is standing in the hallway and all of that blood is rushing down the hallway. It's almost like that, where students were flying down the hallway to get into the Ship."

The bar remained popular with residents, both as a spot to spend their evenings and as an employer, which is why there was so much surprise when word came in 2003 that the Ship would no longer continue to operate as a bar. Blatz recalls the shock that the organization learned about the news shortly before the beginning of the fall semester.

"Every year, the [LHSA] executive got together with the [University's] Housing administration and just talked about the expectations for the upcoming year. When we got into that meeting, Housing had a huge bombshell for us. They didn't believe that it was proper for a residence to have an alcoholic establishment operating out of it and that there were insurance issues," Blatz said.

The Administration told the LHSA that the U of A's insurance provider, which covered campus bars nationwide, would no longer insure the Ship if it continued to serve drinks. According to Blatz, Housing and Food Services (now Ancillary Services) opted to close down the establishment

completely, citing concerns about damage done to the property as well as an increase in sexual assaults in the residence hall.

"We received a sexual assault survey results from two years ago, and they linked the alcohol and the service of alcohol in Lister as being one of the main contributions to the sexual assaults that occur in Lister," Tracey Mason, the Assistant Director of Residence Life, told the *Gateway* in 2003.

The LHSA looked for other insurance options and eventually asked the Students' Union to insure the establishment—the SU, however, was already covering RATT and the Powerplant, and couldn't afford to cover the liability on another bar. Finally, the decision was made to simply close the Ship down.

However, the LHSA negotiated an extension before scuttling the Ship, asking the business to remain open until the end of the current insurance agreement, originally thought to conclude in January 2004. It was later learned that the contract was misread, and that the Ship's insurance wouldn't be able to expire until the following year. That allowed the business to keep its doors open until the end of April.

"We had told housing that we wanted the Ship to stay aloft on its own terms. We would be in responsible for running it responsibly, and we would sink it on our own terms because it was some thing that students found so special."

The extra time gave first-year students an opportunity to experience the Ship before it went under, and helped ease the loss felt by returning students.

"It was really sad when the place finally closed," Abe said. "I remember when I first got to Lister, all of the second-years said, 'As soon as you're 18, we're going to take you to the Ship for your birthday.' So, when it closed down, I was sad that we weren't going to be able to do that for the new people coming in."

"It was just a great place to gather. You could go down and meet other people from other floors. Everyone was always dressed up for the theme nights and together on the dance floor. It was a place where you could go and not feel intimidated, to meet people who were in the same situation as you," she added.

Although the physical bar had sunk, Lister's executive attempted to keep the spirit of the place alive. A deal brokered with the Powerplant set every second Thursday as "Ship Night." While open to anyone, the event is geared towards continuing the Lister bar's tradition of theme parties and drink specials. Nathan Brown, who manages the biweekly event, said that while not as popular as the original,

the transplanted Ship Night draws in significant numbers.

"On our busiest nights, we've had about 400 people, and around 100 on our slower ones," Brown said.

"People still go all out for the theme nights, spend a lot of time on the costumes. It's a great time to just gather and have fun with people. It's also safer than going out to Whyte Avenue or another one of the bars in the city, and then having to walk back to campus."

When the Ship closed down as a bar, the space remained open for students to gather or study. However, the dingy surroundings and dim lighting didn't seem much of a draw for students. While there were plans to renovate the space to make it more appealing to Listerites, financial roadblocks made this difficult. Instead, the space sat empty and mostly unchanged until 2006, when Ancillary Services and the LHSA struck a deal to turn the space into a study space and lounge for the residents of the towers. Although the renovations were mostly done in the fall, the official grand reopening and ribbon cutting for the newly designed ship didn't occur until Friday.

David Bruch, Executive Director of Ancillary Services, was one of the ribbon cutters, along with Michael Janz. Bruch said that while the interior of the Ship might have changed, students opted to keep one part of the room's history alive along with the new incarnation.

"We gave students the chance to name the new space, and they voted to keep it the same, to keep the name the Ship," he said. "The full name of the space is the Ship Community Centre, and that's what it is designed for, for students to be able to gather."

Blatz agreed that, while it won't be the same as when the Ship was still operating as a bar, the main draw of the place was the chance to mingle with other Listerites and to forge friendships with those on other floors and in other towers.

"It wasn't anything overly special in terms of the look of the place. If you walked in there on a Saturday afternoon, it didn't look like the kind of place that was as popular as it was. It had old furniture. The carpet was really nasty ... it wasn't much to look at. It was all the people who gathered there, mostly on Thursday nights, it was a chance for you ... without leaving your building to go have fun with other people living there."

And yes, like the others who remember the Ship, Blatz does remember the near-legend of when KISS boarded the Ship.

"They played a sold out show. If memory serves me correct ... [the concert committee] had KISS play and it ended up that they lost something like \$5 on the whole night."

**Jordan Blatz,
former LHSA president**

Powerplant? More like Power-can't!



VICTOR
VARGAS



The Powerplant is in big trouble. It was a surprise in the 2001/02 year when the Powerplant lost \$8612. In 2005 it was a shock that the Students' Union budgeted a \$30 000 deficit for running the Powerplant—until they posted a \$173 495 loss at the end of the year. But as of 31 December, 2006 the Powerplant is losing a breathtaking \$209 807, with four months left on the fiscal year to experience an even bigger hit. With such a large loss in the cards, the SU is being realistic about this year's financial forecast.

"Will [these changes] turn it around, no. Will it stop the floodgates, so to speak ... I'm hoping so," SU Vice-President (Operations and Finance) Chris Cunningham says.

At first glance, running the Powerplant as a profitable business shouldn't be that complicated. Students like drinking, eating and watching live music. Any bar on campus should be a licence to print money, yet somehow consecutive student governments have promised to make the Powerplant profitable only to fail again and again, making it as puzzling as trying to find a class in the Biological Sciences building.

But this failure can't be due to a lack of imagination on the part of the Students' Union. No other student government has attempted a plan as ambitious as taking the Powerplant and dividing it into three businesses: a buffet, a bar and a coffee shop. Stopping short of adding a massage parlor to the 'Plant, the SU has tried some pretty inventive strategies this year. But though it was an imaginative idea, so far it's failed horribly. Since September, the buffet alone managed to lose \$76 067 while the coffee shop lost a modest \$21 669, with the bar coming out the best by only losing \$7244. Add in depressing summer losses, and the straits are dire indeed.

In response, the Student's Union has eliminated the dinner buffet and alcoholic drinks on Monday

through Wednesday. As Chris Cunningham explains, the dinner buffet simply wasn't bringing in the people needed to make it justifiable, and the \$50 000 rent reduction at the expense of mid-week liquor sales was great decision because not only would it cut costs, but any lost business would be soaked up by RATT.

Despite these changes, Cunningham believes that the Powerplant is still headed for a loss this fiscal year. While the new buffet policy and savings on the Powerplant rent may help stop the loss of money, it will by no means solve the problem that the 'Plant is still deep in the red.

In the meantime, the employees of the Powerplant have had to adapt to these rapid changes. When asked about how he feels about the workers whom were affected by the changes, Cunningham says he "would not touch that question with a 16-foot pole"; but SU President Samantha Power notes that the affected employees concerned her greatly, and that she has worked for more students to be employed by the Students' Union. Regardless, several workers risk losing their jobs or are working nights where tips are becoming scarcer and scarcer. And as many of them are students, this is the last thing they need.

But it's not as if dissatisfied workers are a major part of the Powerplant's failure, anyway. As much as people complain about the 'Plant's service and food, it's really on par with RATT most of the time. Considering how undermanned they are and that the space is so much larger, they tend to do a decent job. Even the buffet food is now better than most buffets—the SU was even benevolent enough to use real potatoes.

No, the biggest problem for the 'Plant is the atmosphere. RATT has a beautiful view of campus and downtown, TVs constantly showing the best of sports, and runs successful events like Oilers hockey nights and karaoke Wednesdays. In contrast, the Powerplant feels like the land hope forgot, with its long shadows and endless rows of empty seats, it quickly gives patrons the eerie, dreadful sense that a guy with a machete will jump out of the shadows and scream, "God Is Dead!"

Let's face it, you could have the most charismatic and competent staff in the universe at the Powerplant, but it'll still feel like a Freddy Krueger movie. Its only claim over RATT right now is

that it's set for bands to jam it out. But with the Powerplant's attendance continuing to drop, this is clearly not enough.

While the SU is brainstorming some new ideas to reinvigorate the Powerplant, the financial situation, according to Cunningham, will necessitate that Students' Council will have to make some tough decisions. Unfortunately, SU's options are becoming increasingly limited.

But as Power points out, should Students' Council rescind on the lease and give the Powerplant back to the University, there's no guarantee the SU could ever regain control. And with the University's incredible thirst for more and more space, the Powerplant could easily become the "Ralph Klein Memorial Building."

Instead, Power hopes her initiatives to turn the Powerplant into "Student Lounge" space like SUB may be an answer.

"Students are no longer looking for bar space, they are looking for student space ... to interact like SUB space downstairs. We are in a process of figuring out how we can best utilize the [Powerplant's] space for students," Power says.

Still despite her efforts, she admits that to make the 'Plant into more of a student space it would still require drastic changes.

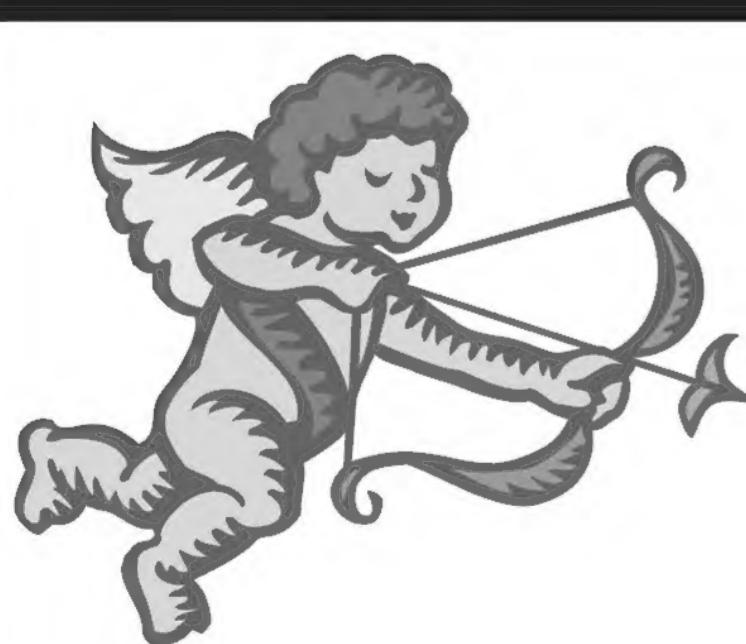
Regardless, something needs to be done, and this should be one of the top issues on candidates' platforms in the upcoming student elections. The Powerplant is costing students \$209 807 and counting. That money could easily have gone to the Access Fund, the Campus Food Bank, or even scholarship opportunities to help students in need. Plus, students are losing their jobs over this, and despite the booming Alberta economy, it's hard to find a job that will pay well and fit within a class schedule.

I don't have the answers to how the Powerplant can be turned around. So I suggest that you, the students, should make a pilgrimage to the iconic Powerplant and think of your own ideas of how to save this building. Take a look around, and while you're at it, e-mail your thoughts to the Students' Union and the *Gateway*. At this point, either we engage in vigorous conversation about how to resuscitate a terminally ill business, or just shoot it between the eyes and be done with it.

PLANT WOES

Powerplant profits (and loses) since the SU has assumed control

1997/98	\$43 090
1998/99	\$131 616
1999/00	\$98 223
2000/01	\$50 872
2001/02	\$-8612
2002/03	\$-21 659
2003/04	\$-42 074
2004/05	\$-58 524
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